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NUCKLES

THE ECHIDNA





Where
have all
the cookies
gone?

Into Hershey's®
Cookies 'n' Creme.

Jammed with cookies.

Crammed with crunch.



TM KNUCKLES™ THE ECHIDNA BOOK SIX



LOST PARADISE PART THREE OF THREE

PENDERS

三

**FRANCIS
GALAN**

A. M. H. M. M.

**ANDREW
PEPOY**

10

**BARRY
GROSSMAN**

Celebrity

WICKIE
WILLIAMS

卷之三

J. FREDDY
GABRIE

Editor

**VICTOR
GORELICK**

January 1971

**RICHARD
GOLDWATER**

Editorial

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THERE IS NO BOND STRONGER THAN THAT BETWEEN A PARENT AND A CHILD. IT BEGINS WITH THE FIRST MOMENTS OF BREATH, WHEN A NEWBORN INFANT ENTERS INTO THE WORLD AND IS DEPENDENT UPON ITS PARENTS FOR ITS VERY SURVIVAL. WITH THE DEPENDENCY COMES UNQUESTIONING OBEDIENCE AND LOVE IN RETURN.

BECAUSE THE CHILD'S FORTUNES ARE SO LINKED WITH WHATEVER BEFALLS THE PARENTS, AS THE CHILD BEGINS TO GROW AND LEARN ABOUT HIS SURROUNDINGS, HE, AT FIRST, ACCEPTS MUCH OF WHAT HE SEES AS THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH. IT IS ONLY WHEN THE CHILD BEGINS TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITY TO SEE BEHIND THE SO-CALLED TRUTHS, THAT HE BEGINS TO SEEK THE REAL ANSWERS.

KNUCKLES HAS BEGUN TO QUESTION THAT WHICH HE HAS LEARNED AND EXPERIENCED. BEYOND THE QUESTION, THOUGH, IS ONE SIMPLE BASIC TRUTH THAT STANDS BEFORE ALL ELSE. NO MATTER WHAT HAS GONE ON BEFORE, HE LOVES HIS PARENTS ABOVE ALL ELSE, EVEN IF HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THEIR ESTRANGED RELATIONSHIP.

WITH HIS MOTHER NOW IN HARM'S WAY, KNUCKLES IS READY TO DO WHAT ANY SON WOULD DO, EVEN AT THE COST OF HIS OWN LIFE...



"I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'D LAY
ODDS KNUCKLES DOES."

BAM!

ALRIGHT!
TIME TO KICK SOME
DINGO BU--

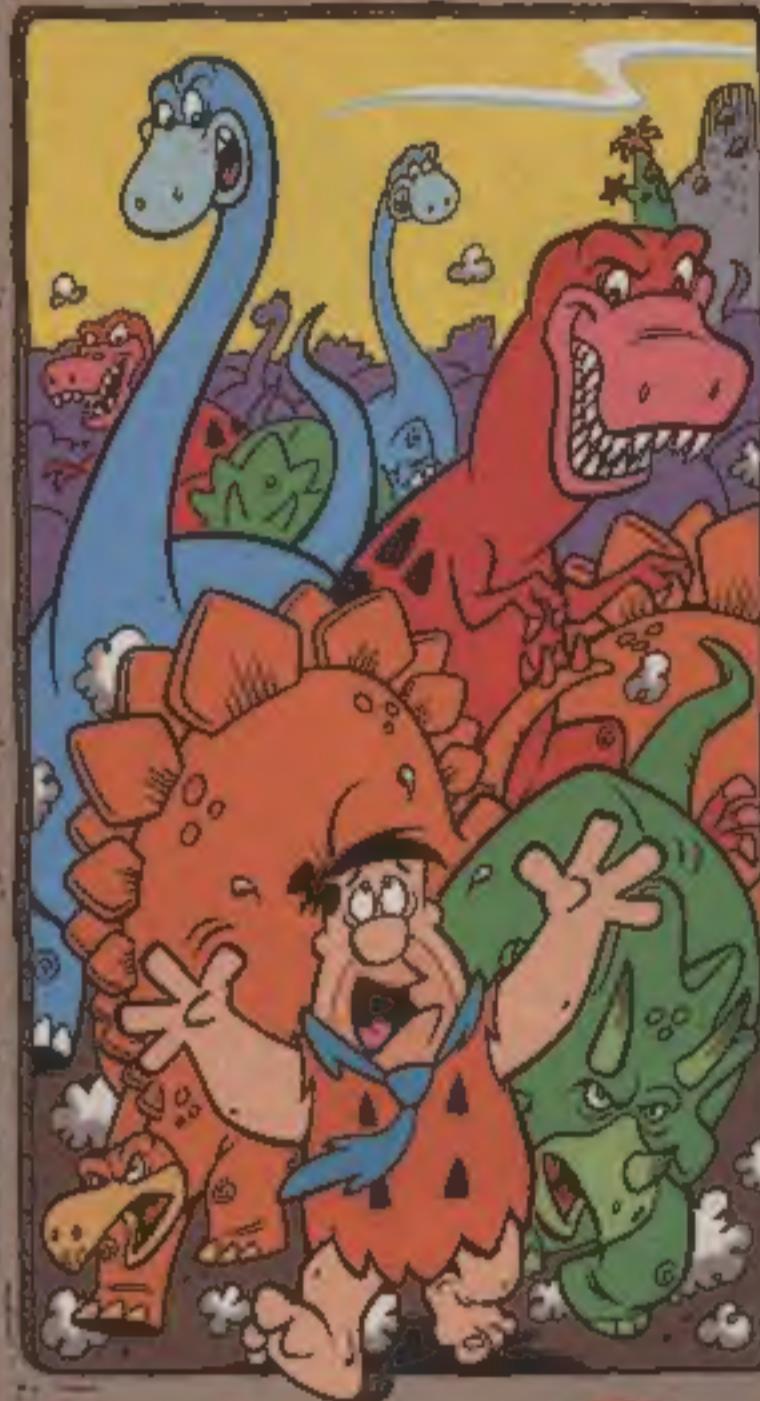
PATIENCE!
LET
THEM COME
TO US!

WHILE THOSE
DONKEYS DOWNSTAIRS
THINK WE'RE
NEGOTIATING OVER
THE HOSTAGES, LET'S
GET READY TO MOVE
OUT!





Q: WHAT WOULD
YOU DO IF
YOU WERE FACING
A STAMPEDE OF
WILD DINOSAURS?



A:

I'D

EAT
'EM!

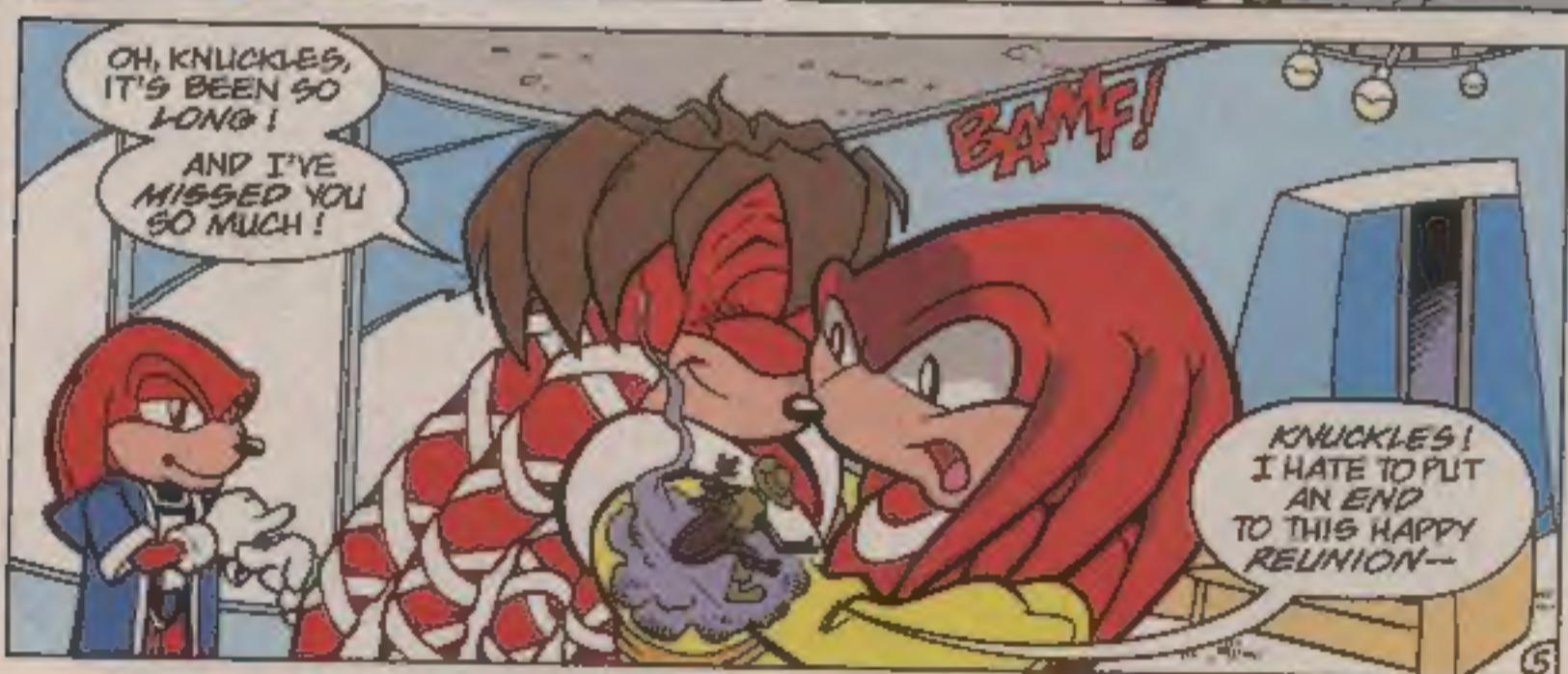


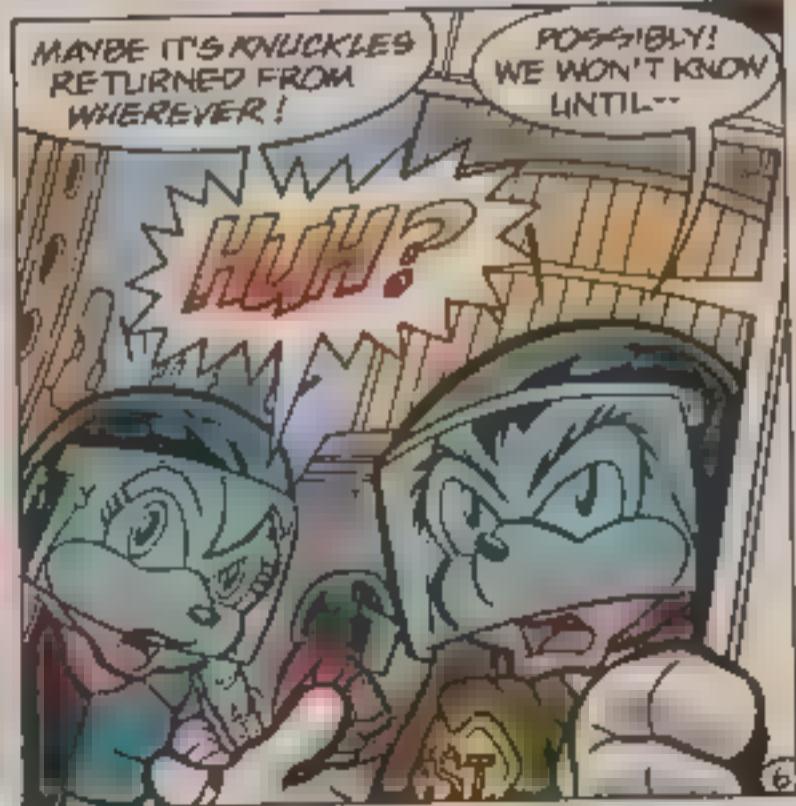
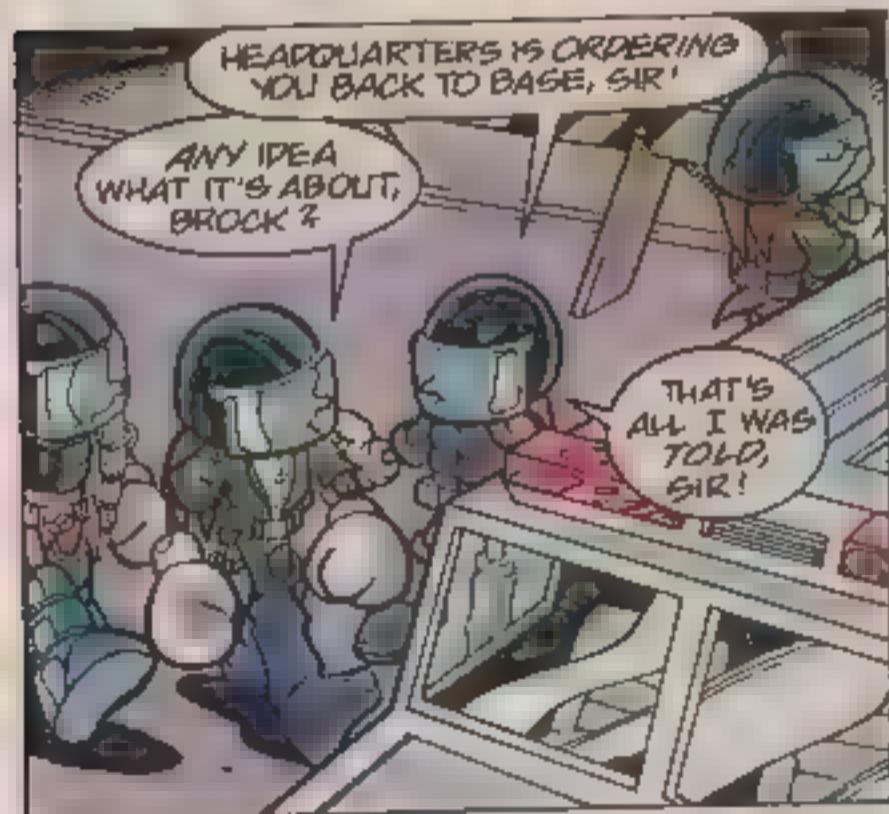
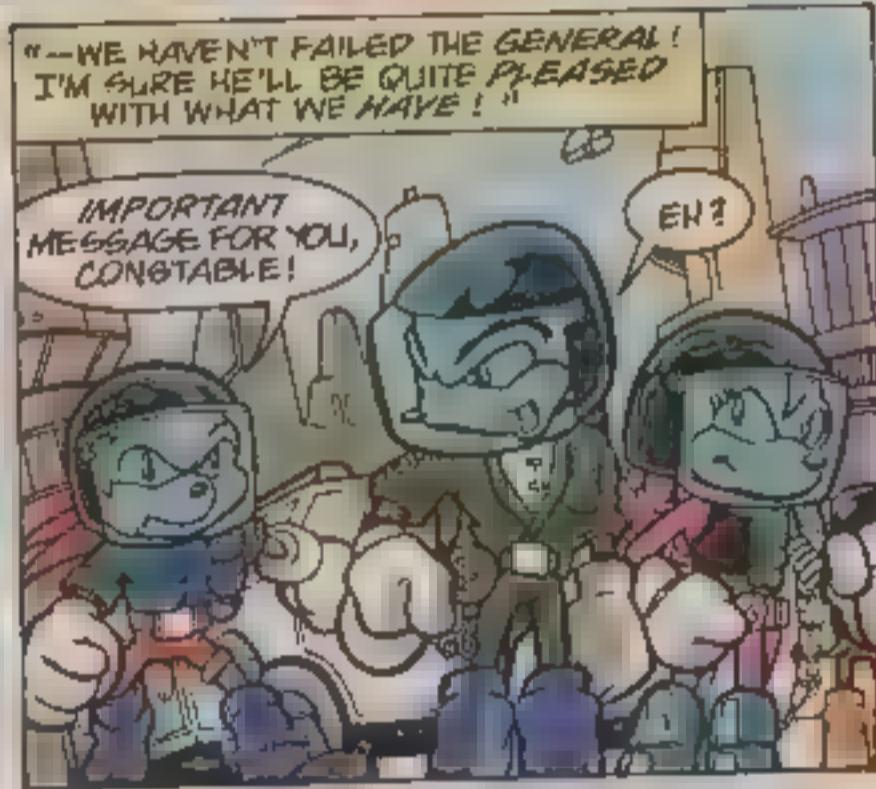
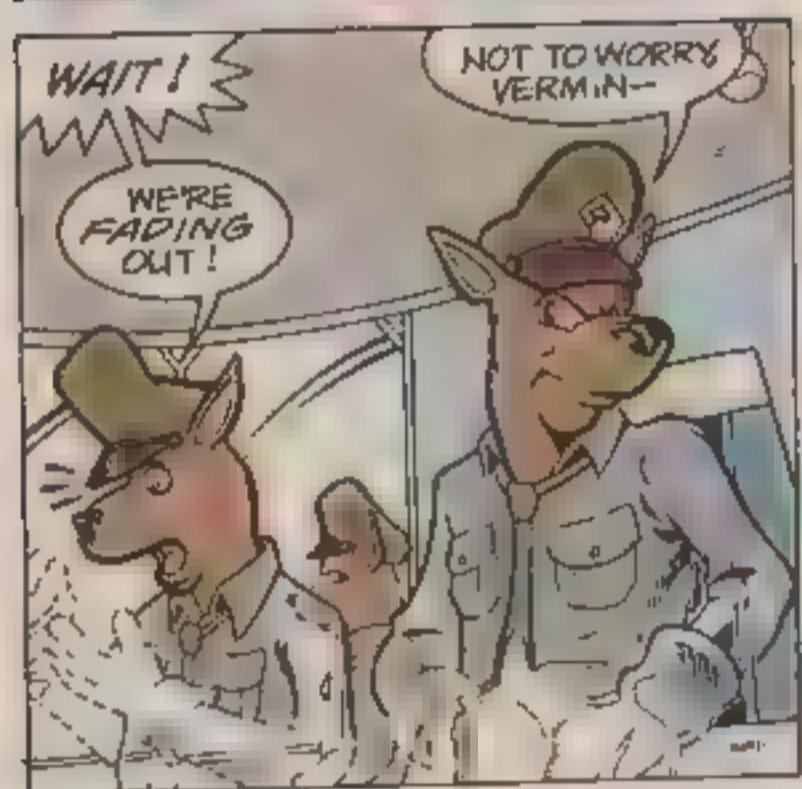
FREE INSIDE  **COCOA PEBBLES!**
COCA-CAVUS SPRINKLES!

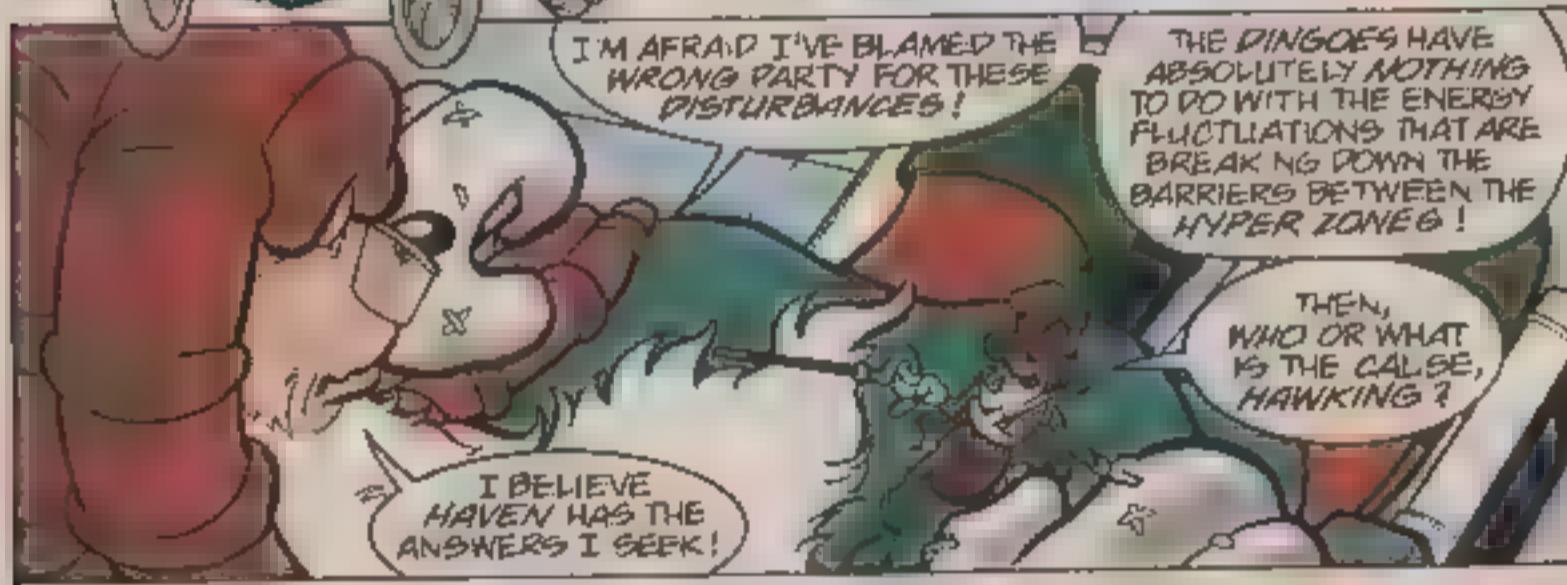
4 DINOSAUR SHAPES!

DINO-MITE CHOCOLATEY TASTE!

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AFFIRMATIVE,
GRANDFATHER
HAWKING!

IN REGARDS TO
YOUR SPECULATION WE
BELIEVE THE CURRENT
SITUATION CAN BE TRACED
TO AN OMEGA WAVE THAT
ORIGINATED IN
ROBOTROPOLIS!**

• AND IT WAS LOST IN
A SWIMMING POOL.

• OR IT WAS
IN THE
DARK ZONE!**

WHEN THE OMEGA
WAVE WIPE'D EVERYTHING
OUT OF EXISTENCE IN
THE PRIMARY ZONE FOR
JUST A BILLIONTH OF A
SECOND, IT ACCELERATED
THE ENTROPIC EFFECT
ALLOWING THE BUFFERS
BETWEEN ZONES TO
BREAK DOWN

THE FIRST SIGN OF ZONE
COLLAPSE OCCURRED WHEN THE
DARK LEGION INVADED THE
FLOATING ISLAND.**

FURTHER EVIDENCE
EMERGED WHEN SEISMIC
SHOCKWAVES ERUPTED IN THE
MARBLE ZONE!***

• ECHIDNAOPOLIS
PARADE BY THE ZONE

AS ECHIDNAOPOLIS TOOK FORM
AND SHAPE ON THE ISLAND ONCE AGAIN,
IT WAS THEN WE BEGAN TO GRASP THE
TRUE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM.

COMPOUNDED EVEN MORE BY
THE FACT THAT OTHER ZONES
ARE NOW FIGHTING FOR THE
SAME SPACE IN OUR ZONE.

SO YOU'RE
SAYING...

EXACTLY

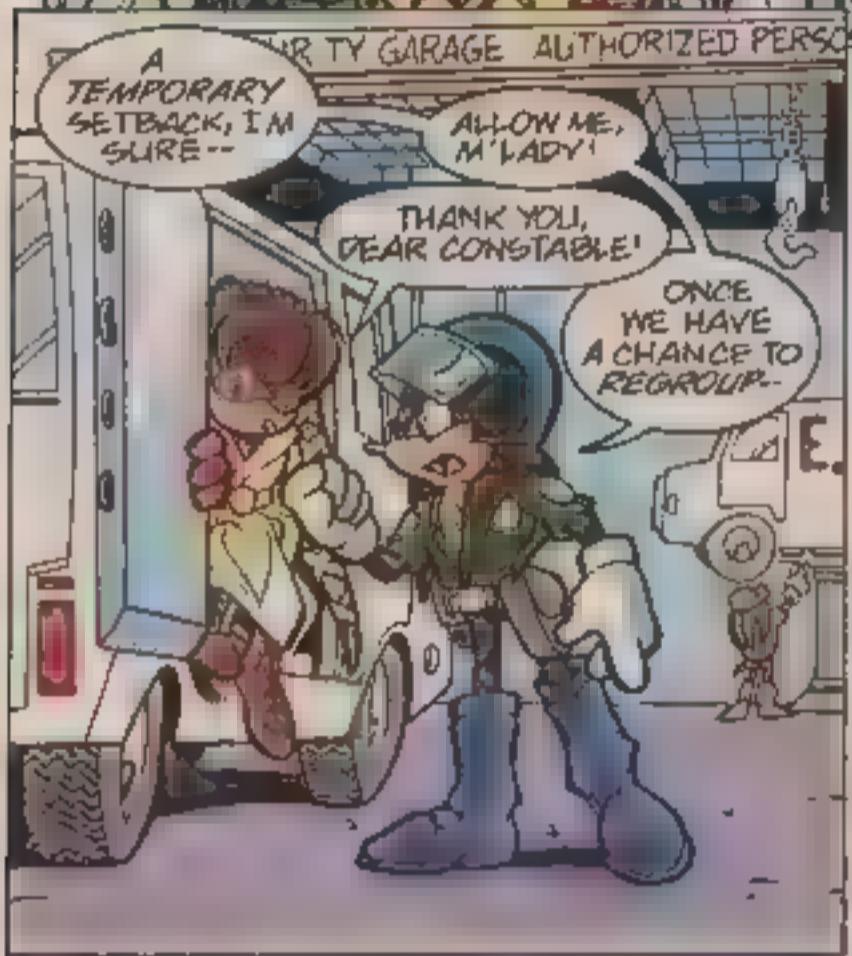
THE ECHIDNAS
AND THE DINGOES
ARE ON A COLLISION
COURSE.

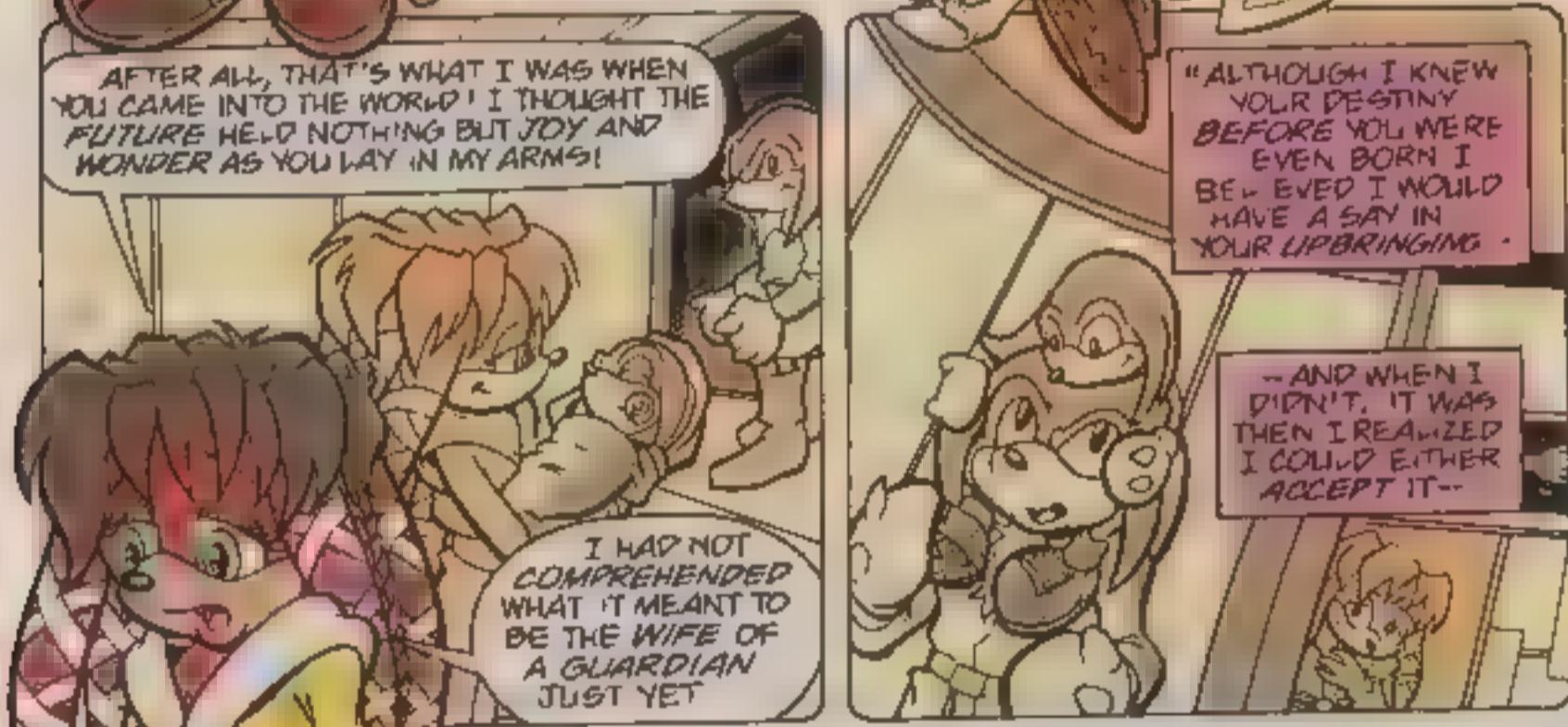


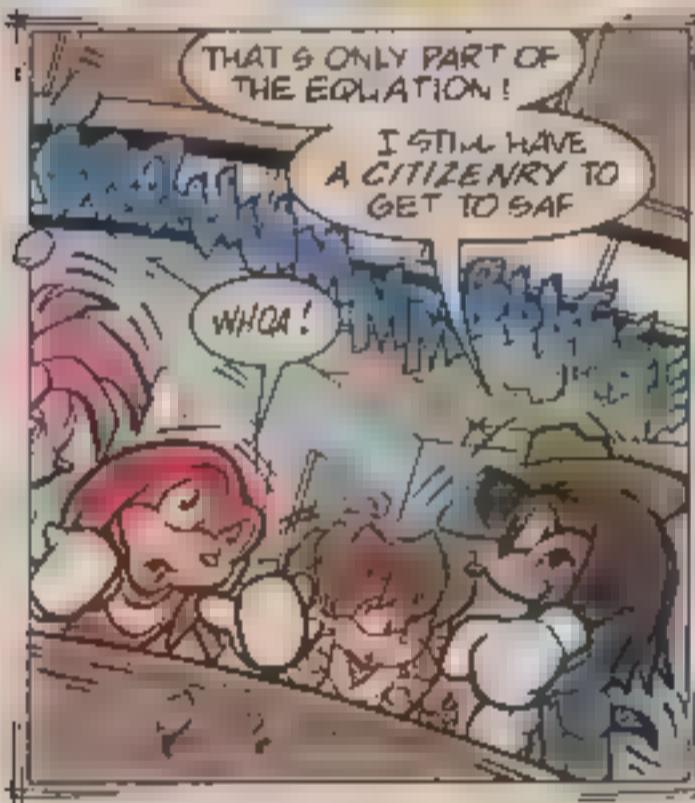
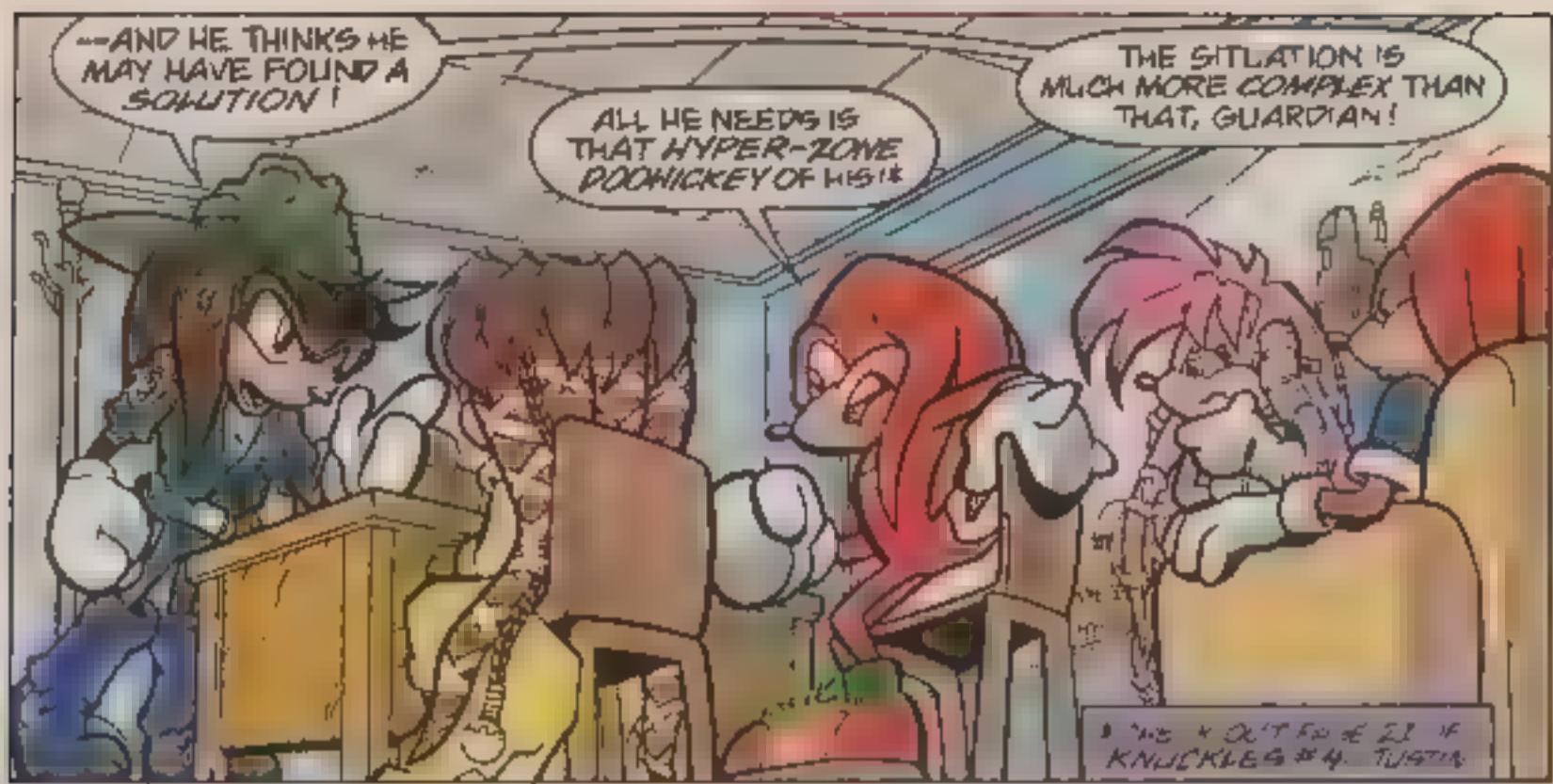
"... AND ONLY ONE CAN SURVIVE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE OTHER!"

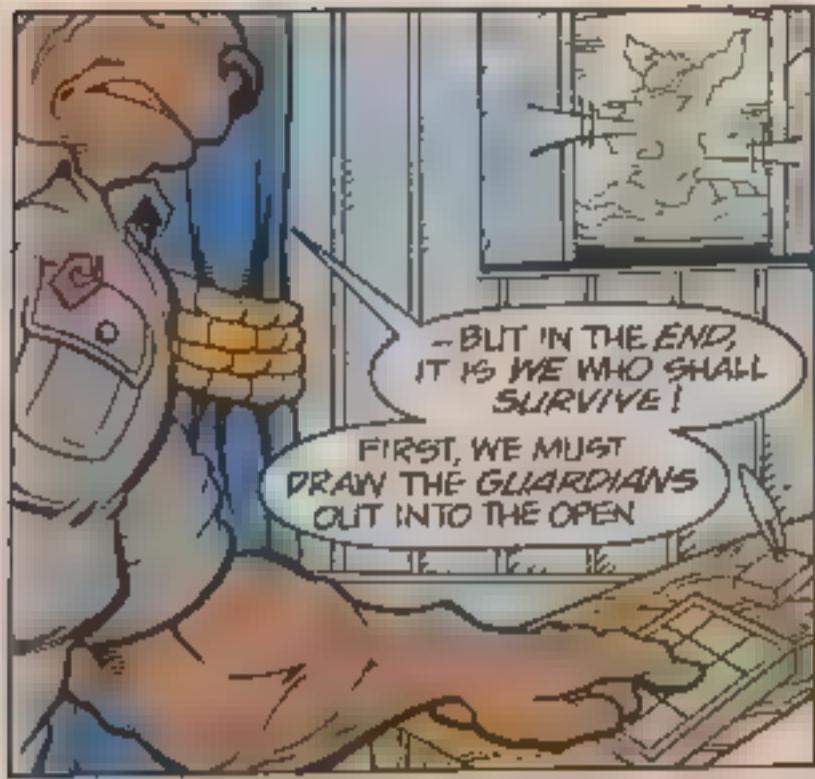
THAT WAS PRUDENT ON YOUR PART TO GET LADY LARA-LE TO SAFETY, GUARDIAN!

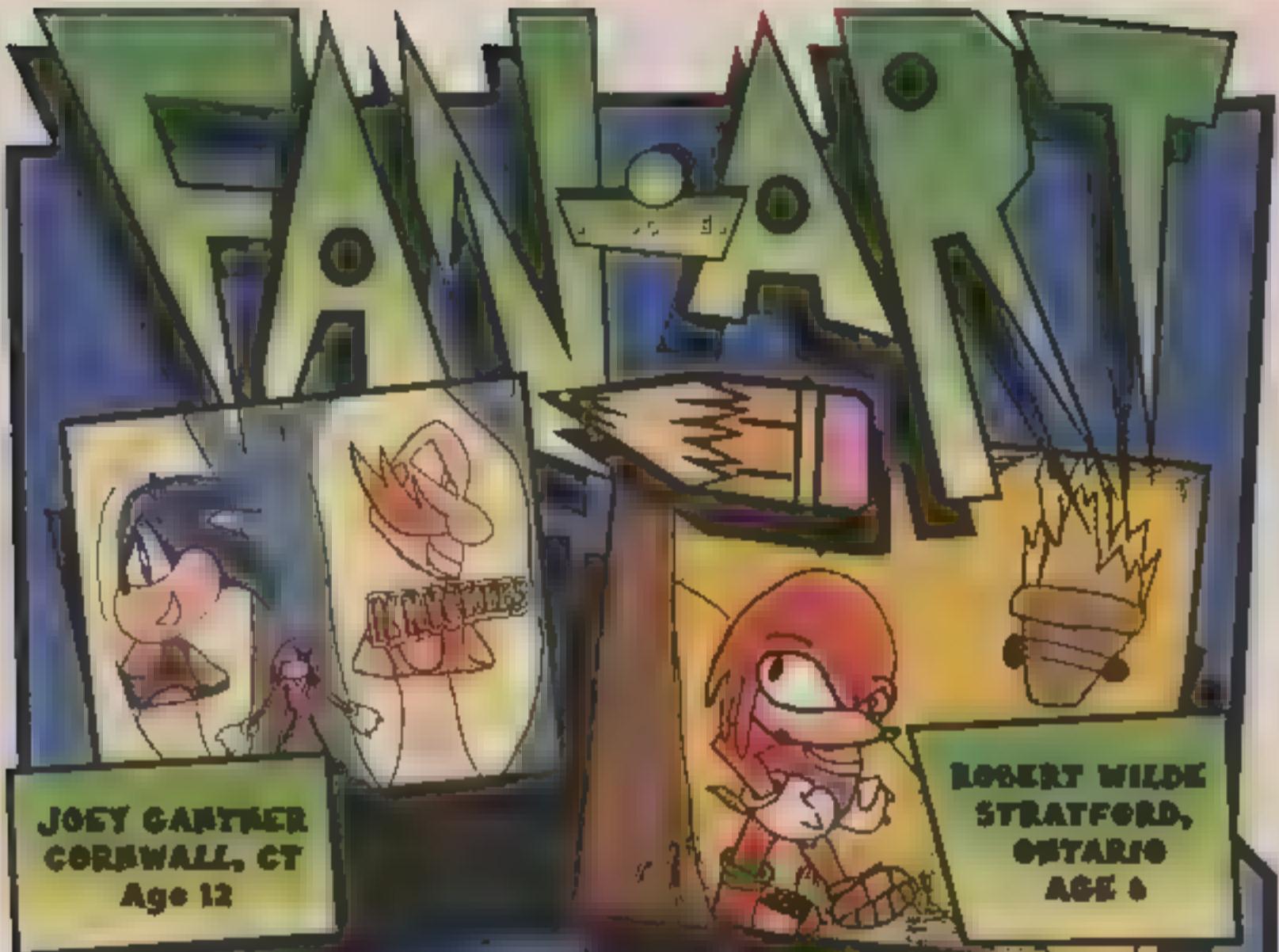
YEAH, BUT WE WEREN'T ABLE TO SAVE THE OTHERS!

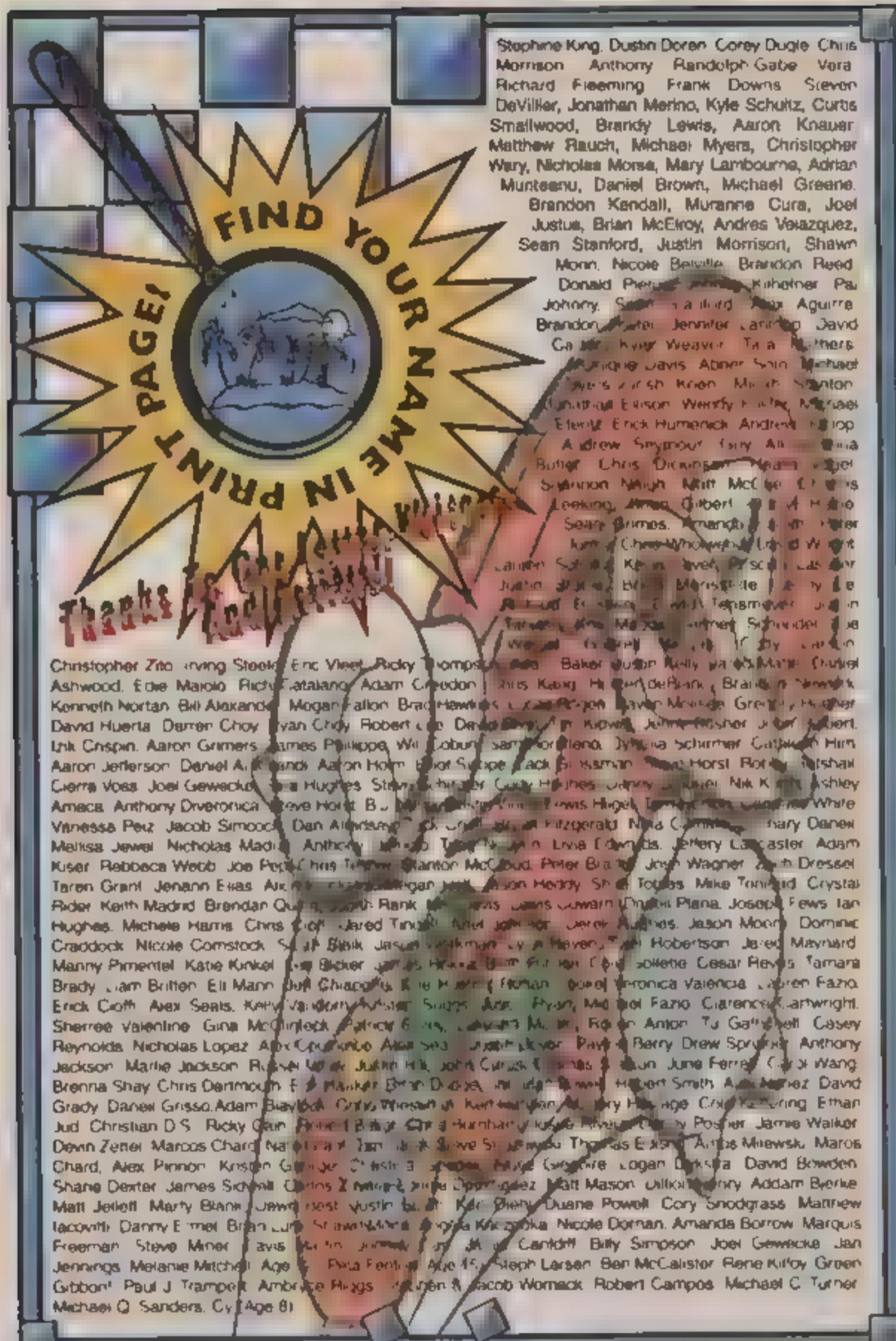


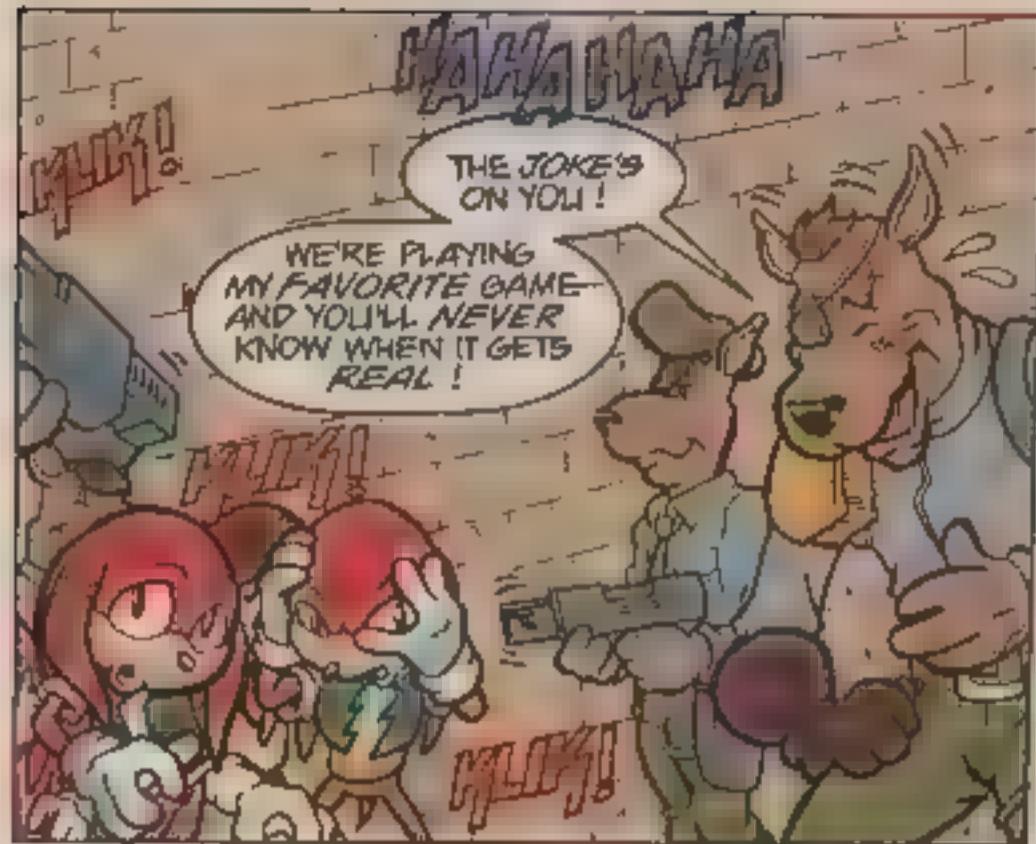














WHUMPH!

LISTEN, GRUESOME, I NEED
TO RAP WITH YOUR MASTER!
WHERE IS HE?

WHY SHOULD I
TELL ECHIDNA GARBAGE
LIKE YOU?

WE CAN
SHOW YOU WHERE,
MY FRIEND!
WE SAW HIM NOT
LONG AGO!

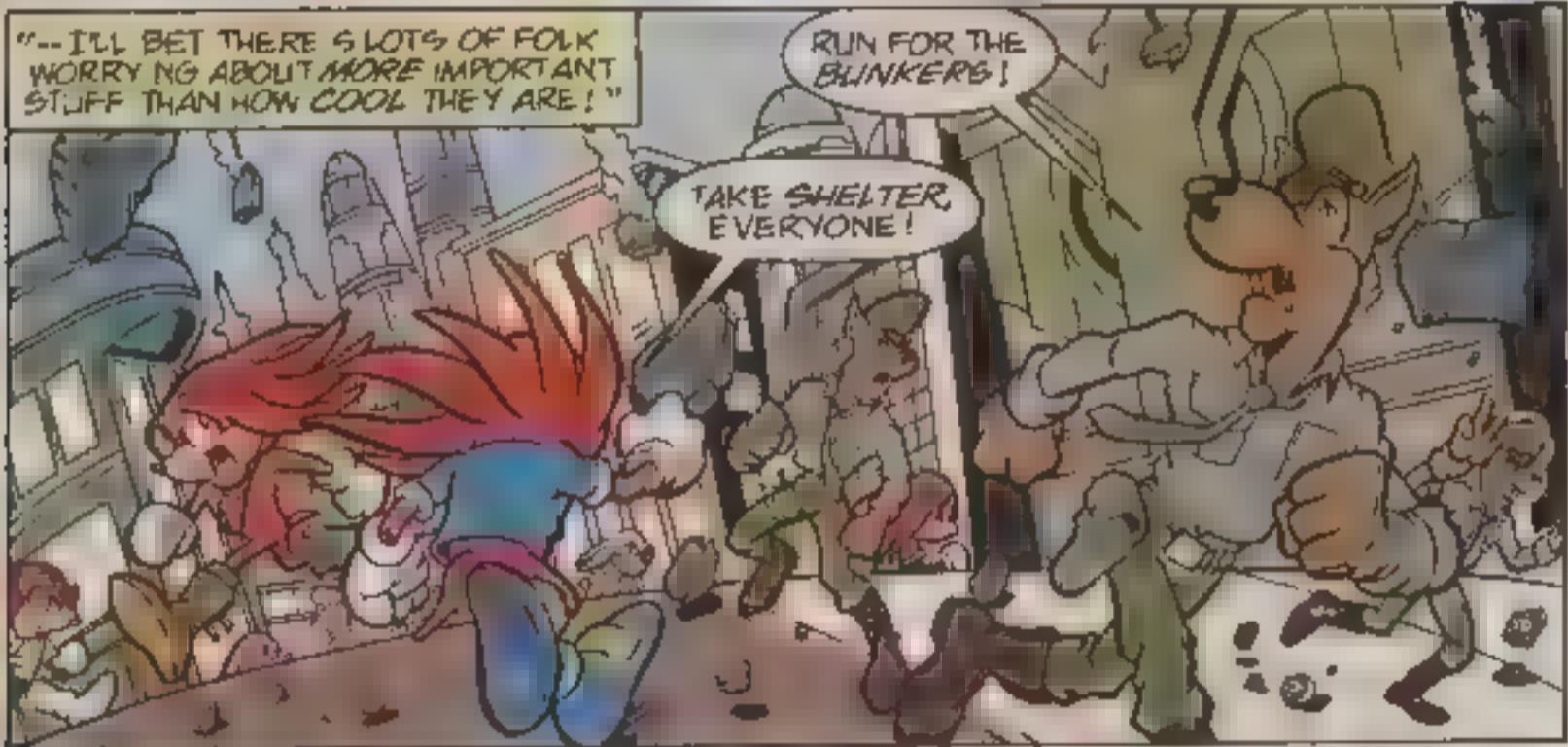
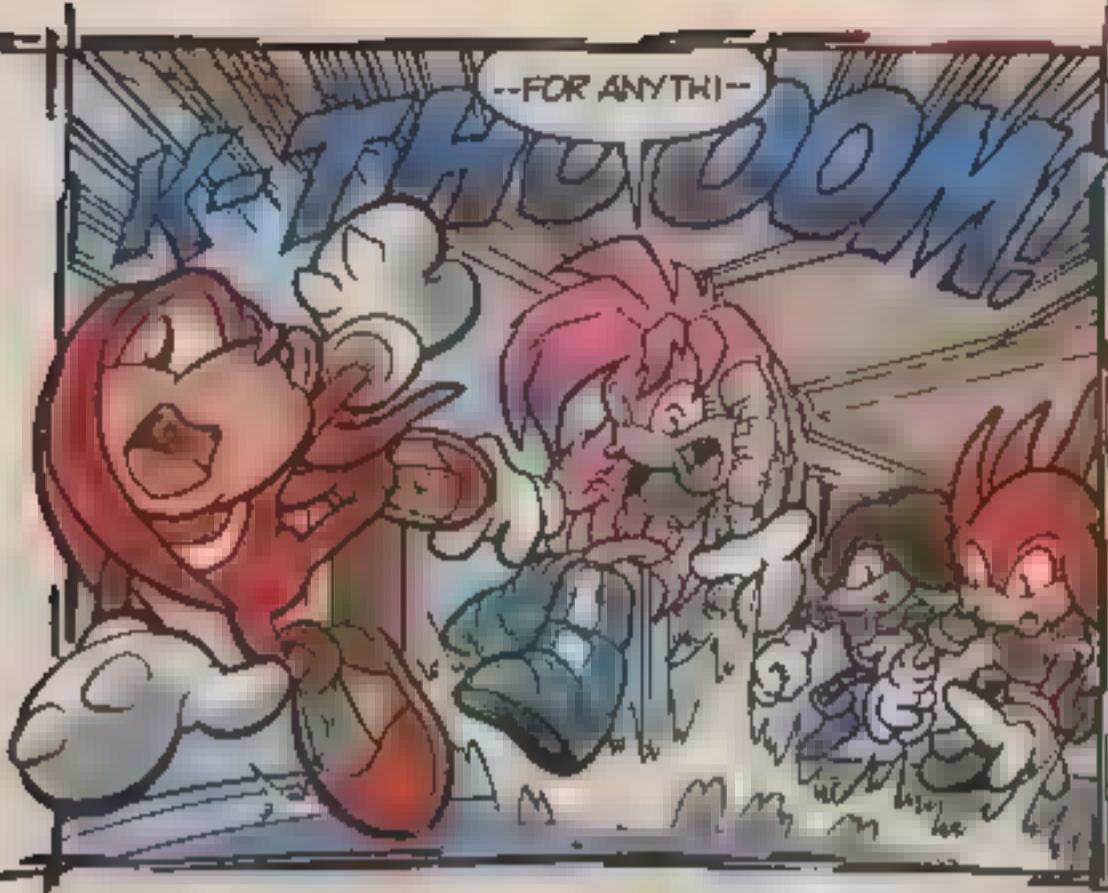
TOO
BAD FOR YOU,
PAL!

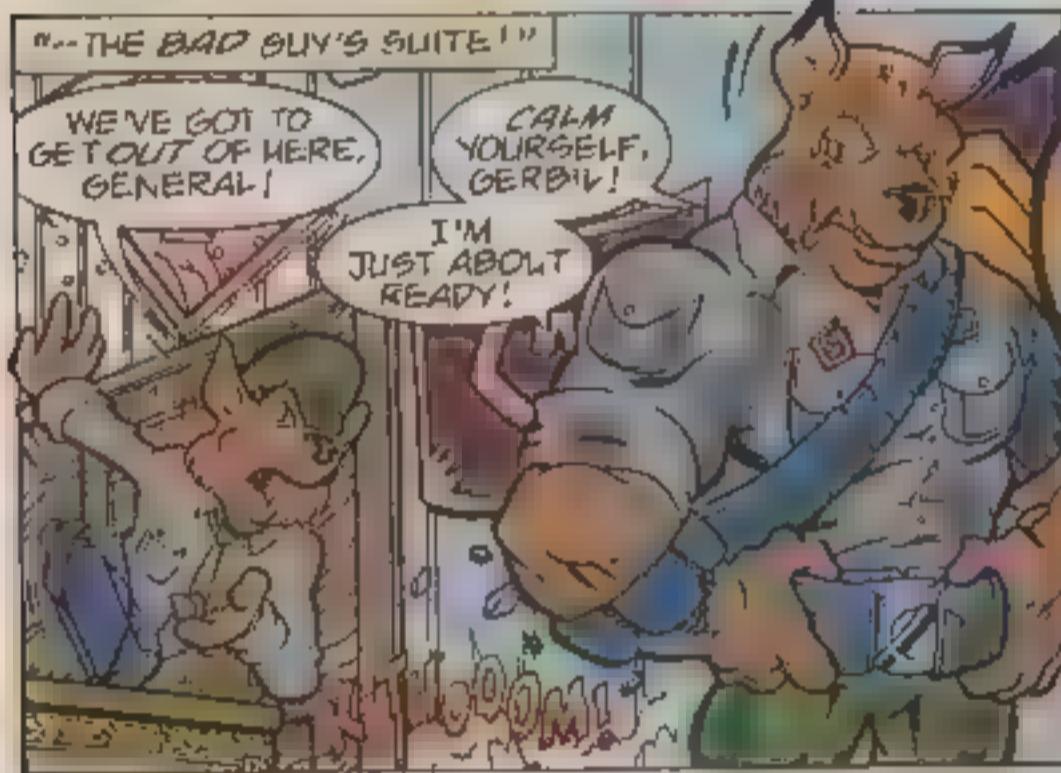
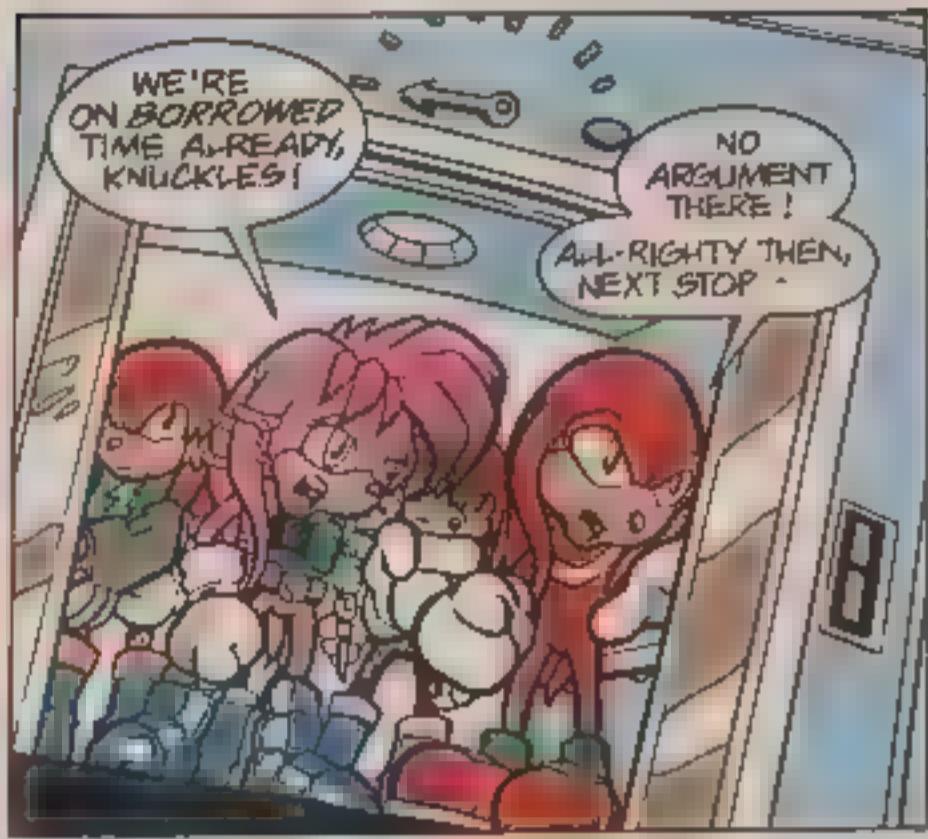
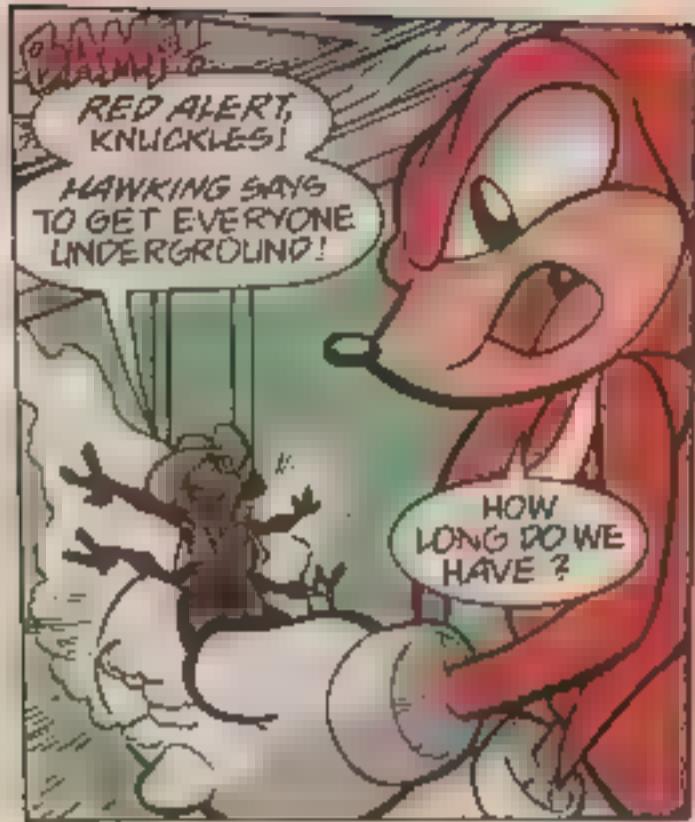
DOWN THIS CORRIDOR
AND TAKE A LEFT TO THE
ELEVATOR!

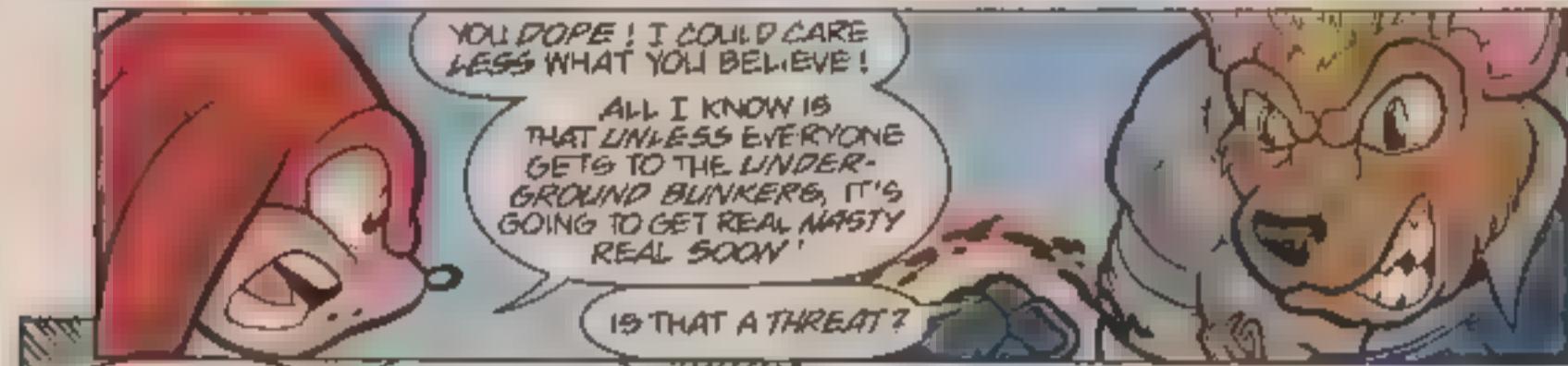
YOU HEARD
THE WORD! LET'S
MOVE IT!

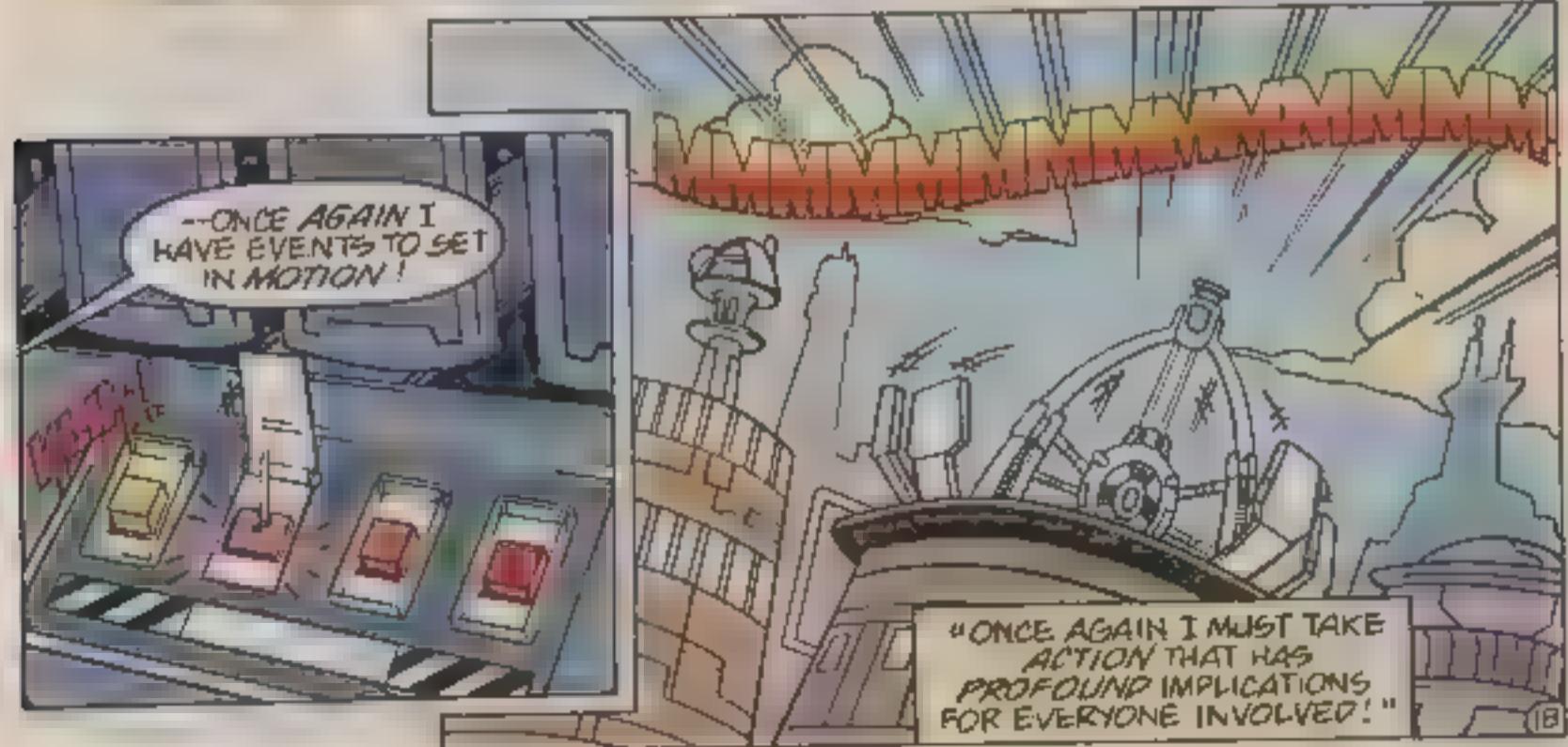
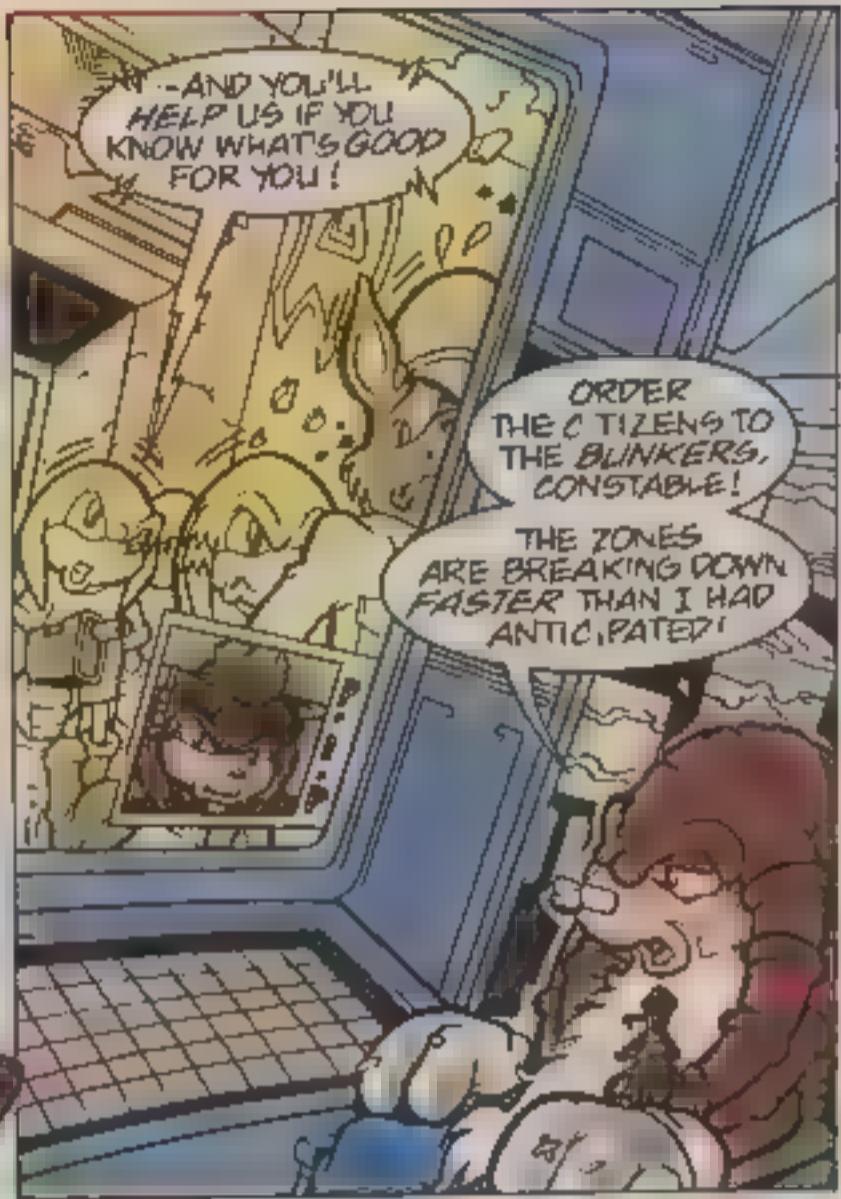
THIS IS
ALMOST TOO
EASY!

WE
BETTER BE
READY...





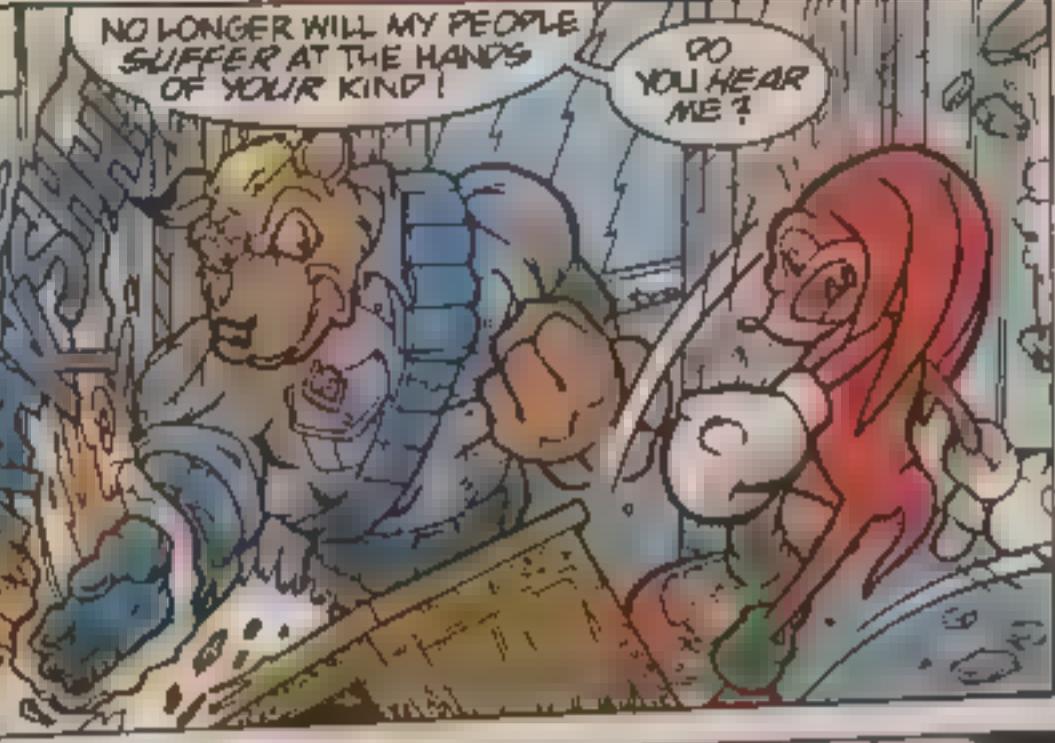
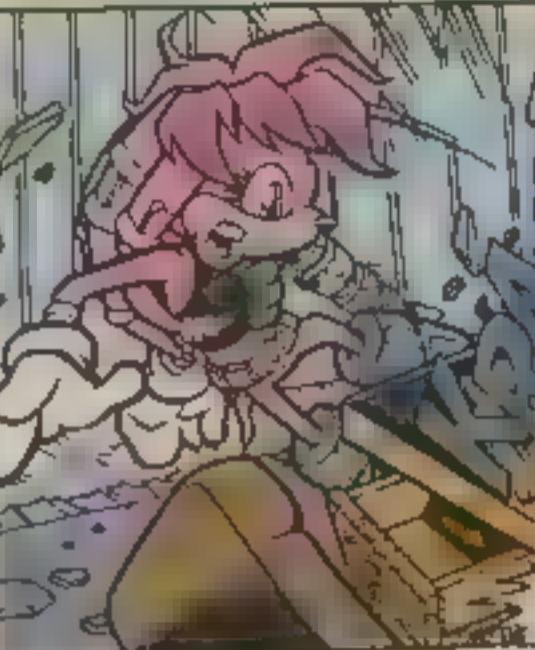




"SUCH IS THE RESPONSIBILITY
OF A GUARDIAN!"

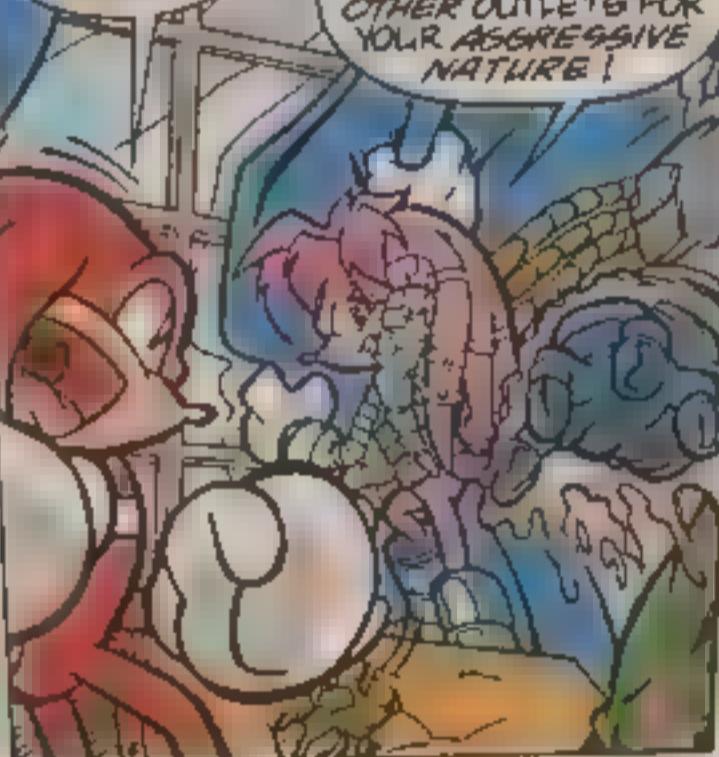
NO LONGER WILL MY PEOPLE
SUFFER AT THE HANDS
OF YOUR KIND!

DO
YOU HEAR
ME?



CRYSTAL,
BABE!

PERSONALLY,
I THINK YOU NEED
OTHER OUTLETS FOR
YOUR AGGRESSIVE
NATURE!



OOOF!

YOU
DON'T GET IT,
DO YOU?

JUST HOLD
THAT POSE--

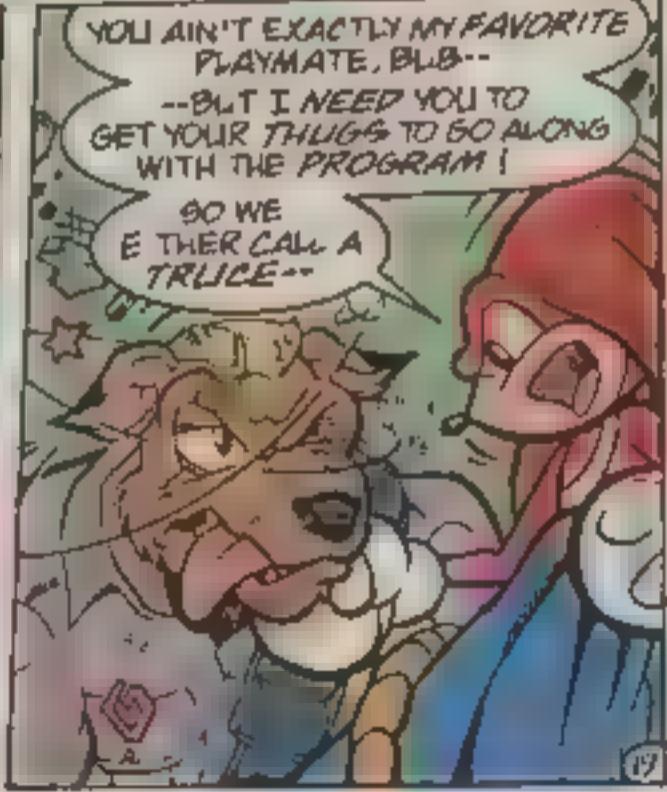
--AND I'LL TRY TO MAKE
MYSELF PERFECTLY
CLEAR!

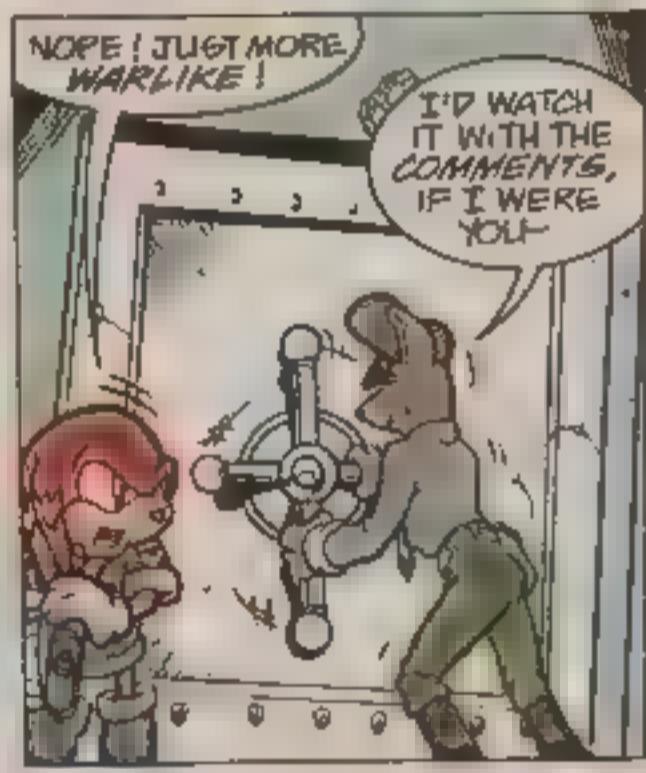
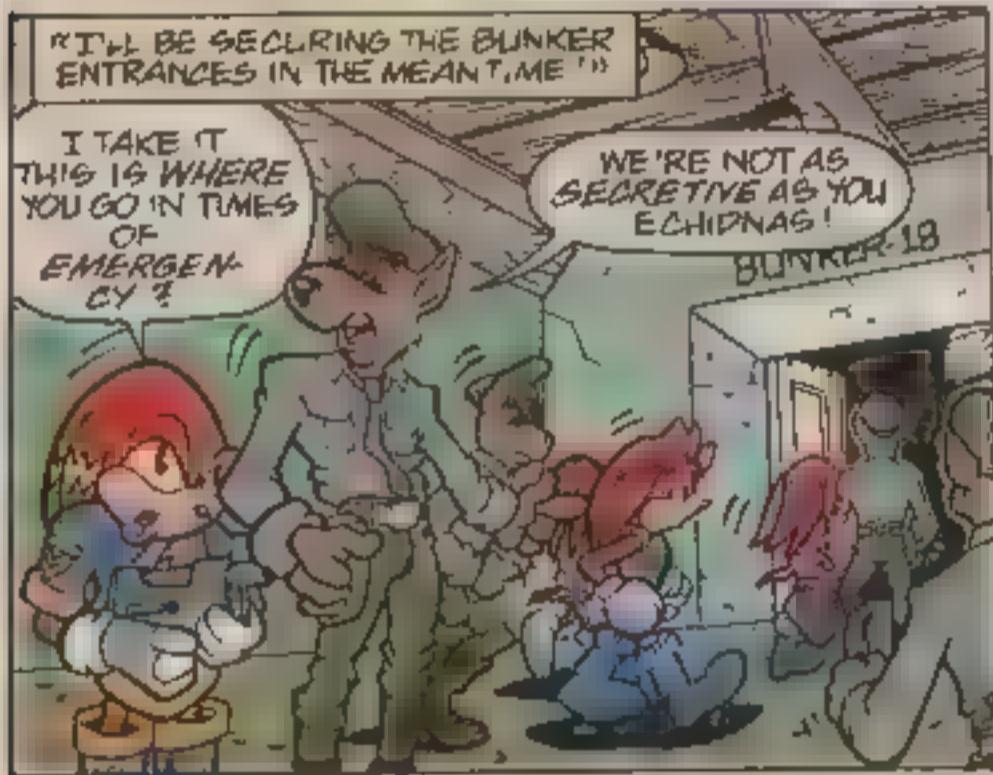
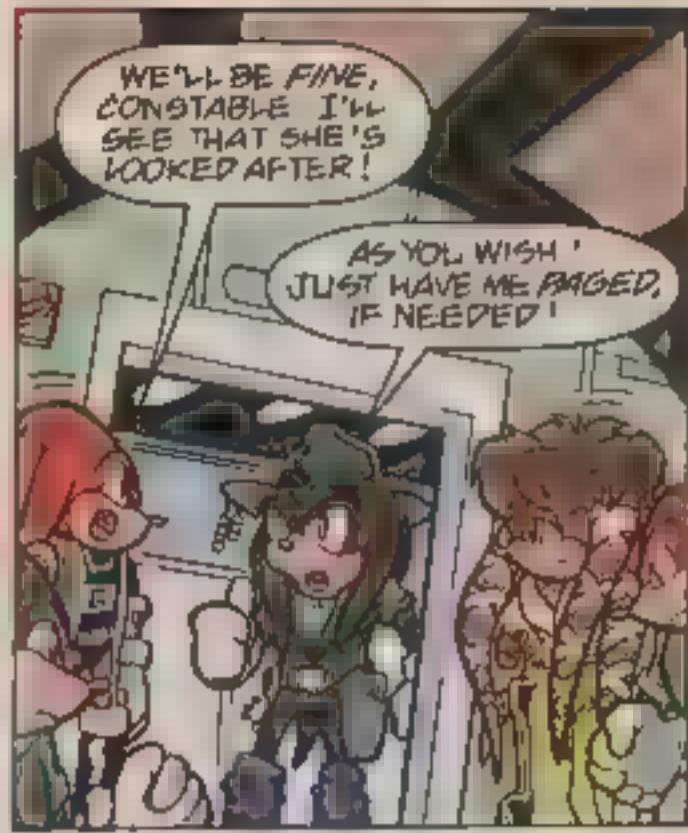
I THINK
HE GOT THE
POINT!



YOU AIN'T EXACTLY MY FAVORITE
PLAYMATE, BLB--
--BUT I NEED YOU TO
GET YOUR THUGS TO GO ALONG
WITH THE PROGRAM!

SO WE
MIGHT CALL A
TRUCE--





"--THERE ARE SOMETIMES THINGS BEYOND OUR CONTROL?"

"WHY DON'T WE SKEEDADDLE FIRST?"

"BARRHUM!" "KROOCH!"

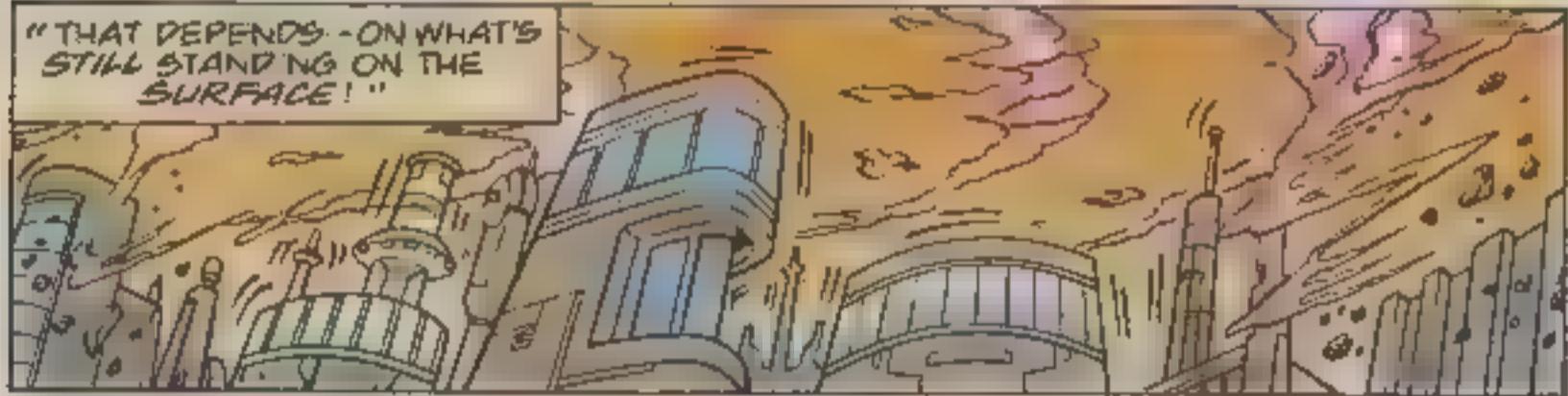
--AND DISCUSS LATER?

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL GETTING THERE!

GENERAL STRYKER!
WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS, SIR?



"THAT DEPENDS - ON WHAT'S STILL STANDING ON THE SURFACE!"



CONSTABLE REMINGTON! WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT?!!

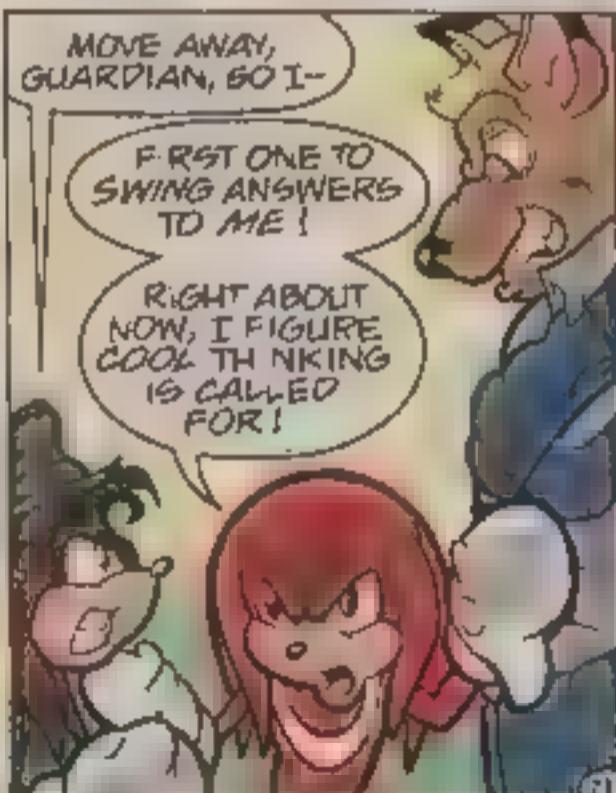
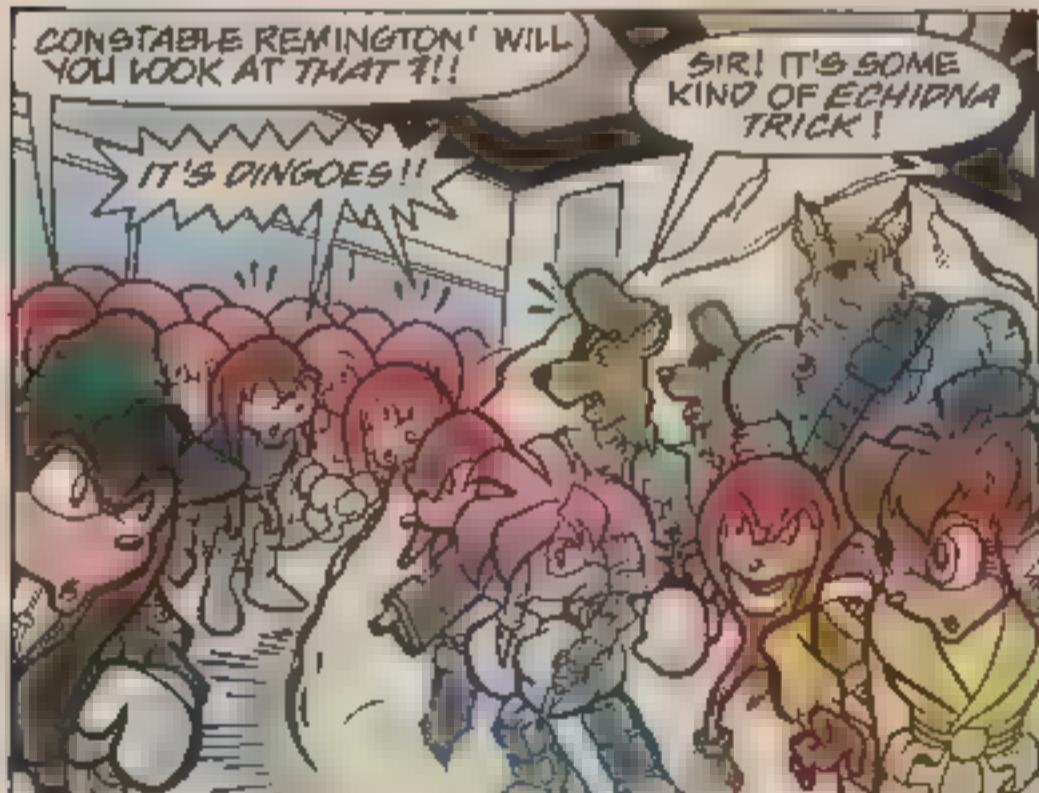
SIR! IT'S SOME KIND OF ECHIDNA TRICK!

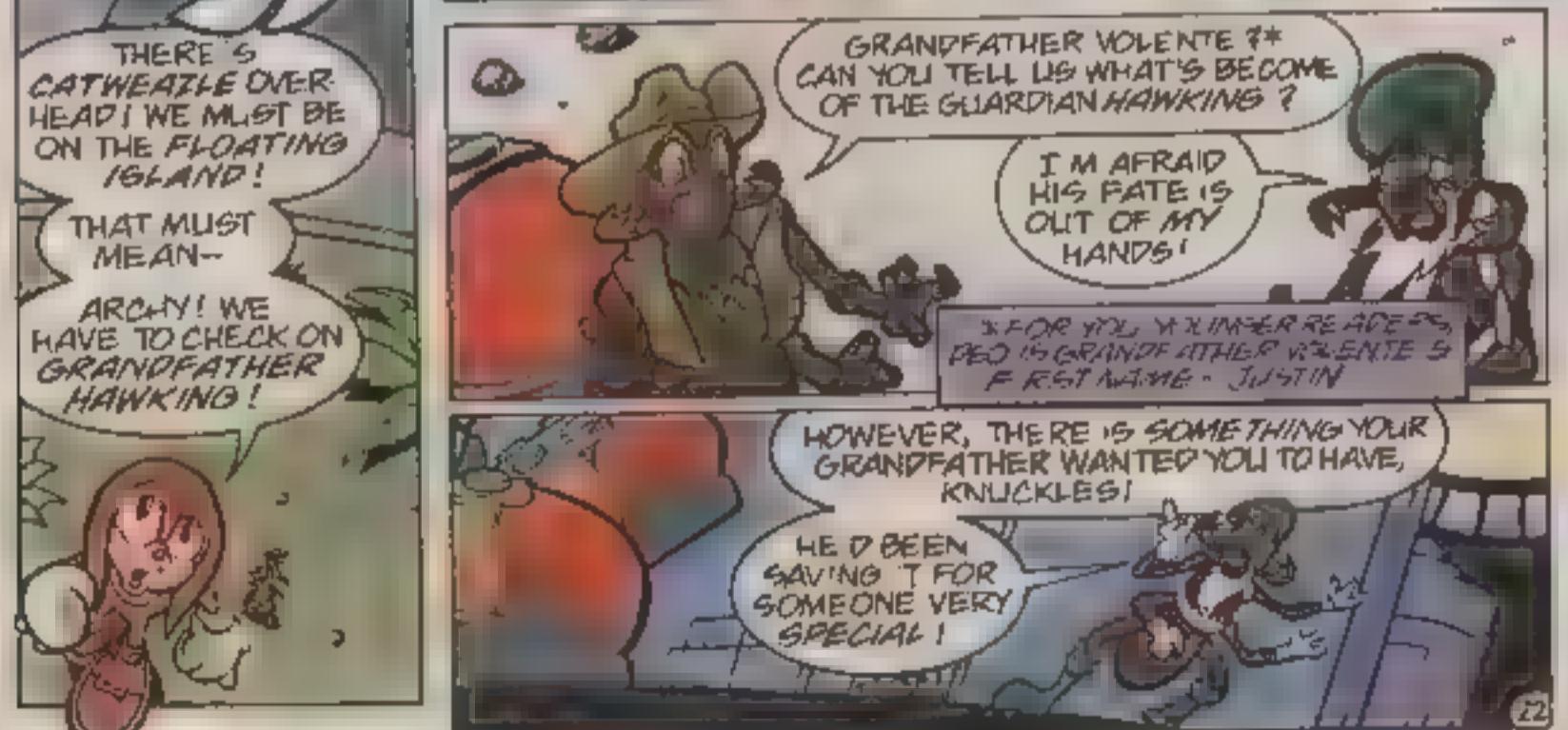
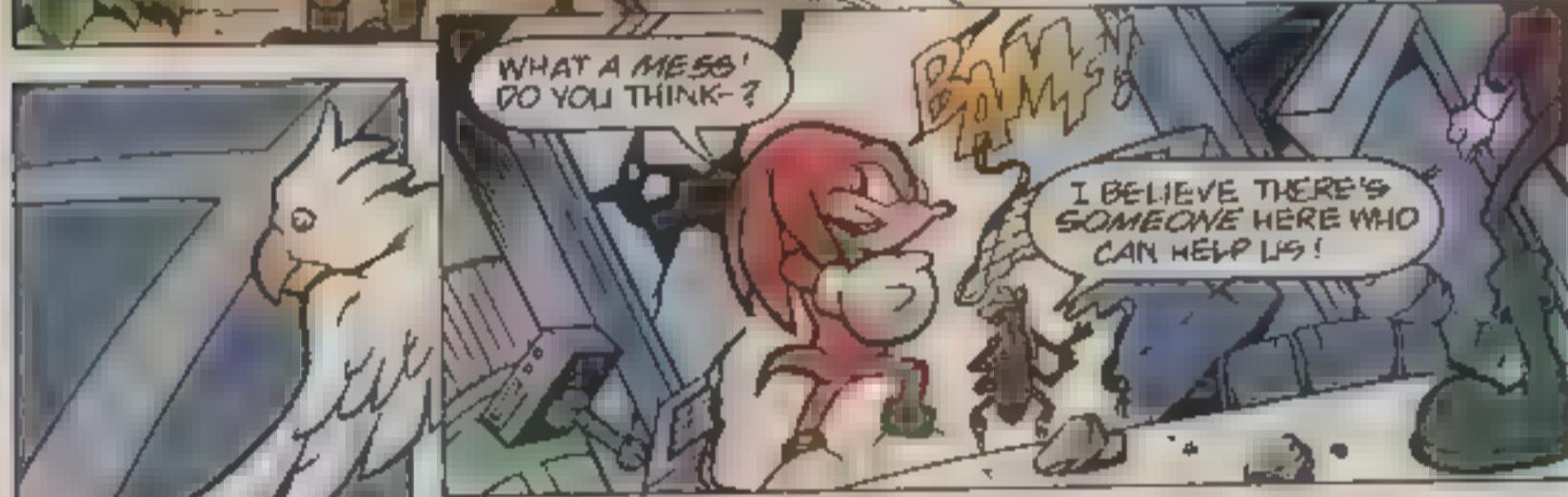
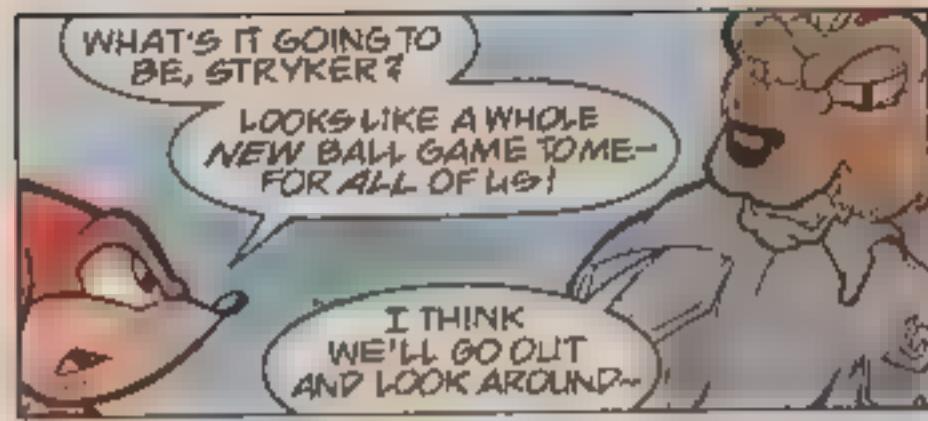
IT'S DINGOES!!

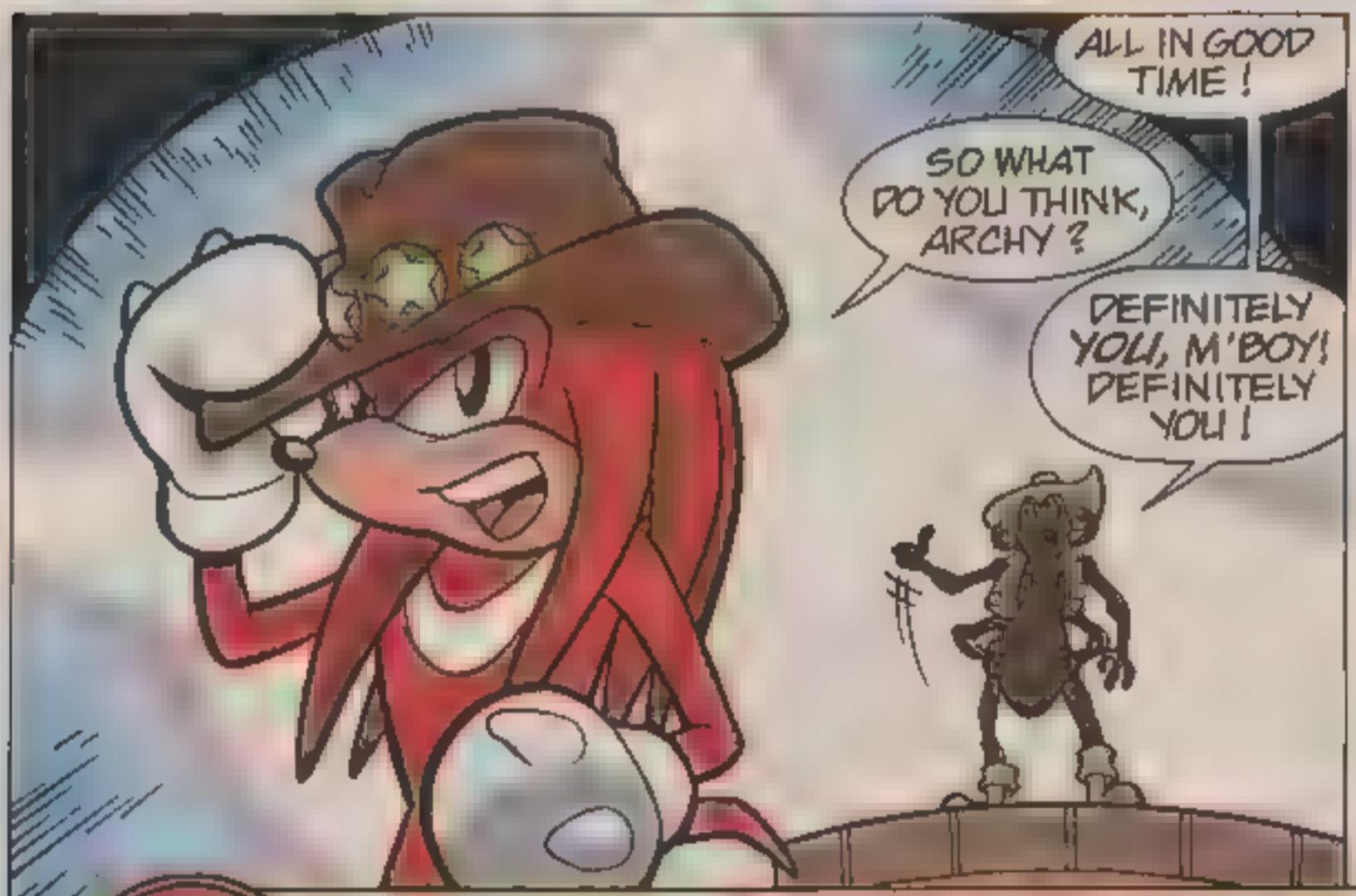
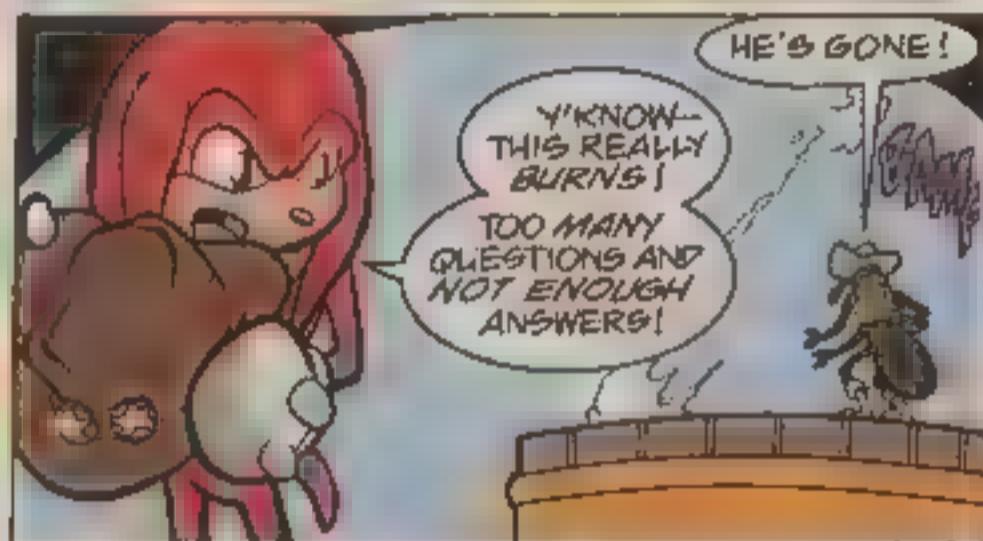
MOVE AWAY, GUARDIAN, SO I-

FIRST ONE TO SWING ANSWERS TO ME!

RIGHT ABOUT NOW, I FIGURE COOL THINKING IS CALLED FOR!







NEXT: THE RETURN OF **ERI ERUZAK**,
ALONG WITH **The Dark Legion!**

THE DINGOES SETTLE IN ECH DNAOPOLIS' MORE SECRETS OF
HAVEN! PLUS LARA-LE, JULIE-SU, ARCHIMEDES AND CHAOTIX, OH YEAH,
WE THREW IN KNUCKLES AS A BONUS! BE HERE!



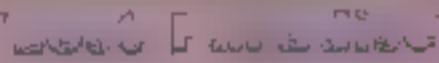
BECAUSE
YOU
DEMANDED
IT...



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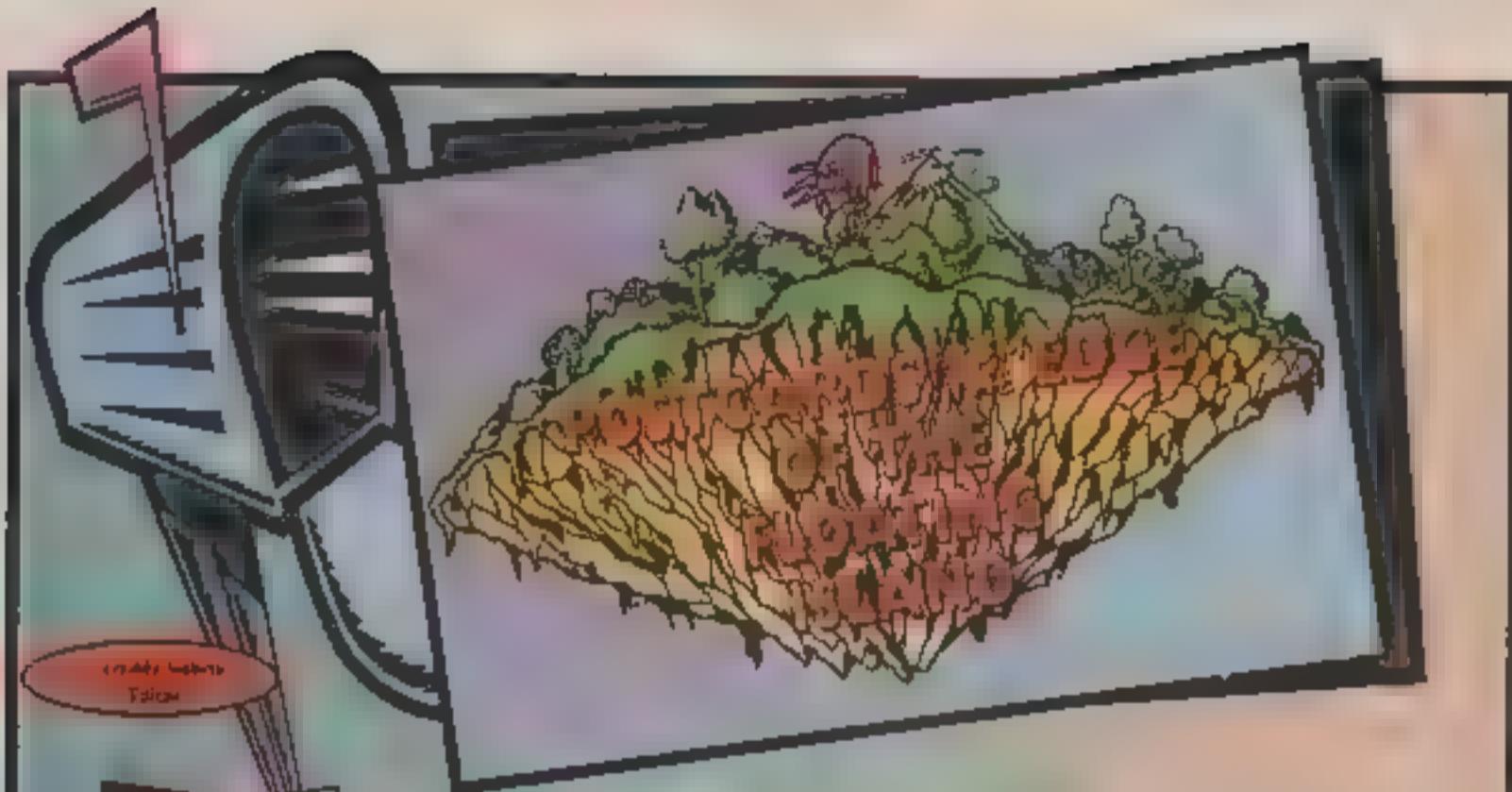
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FEED AND FLIPJOKE! That's how I'll describe the amount of mail coming in with your letters page name suggestions. When **KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #7** hits the stands in two months time, it will sport the new letters page name with the name of the person who 'thunk' it up!

Speaking of which, it will also mark the return of everybody's favorite echidna villain... **Enerjak!** This time, however, he is not alone as **The Dark Legion** rise with him! Hold on to your hats **Rad Red fans**, this is one for the record books. On other Mobian terrain...

Next week: Take a walk on the wild side with **Sonic** as he steps into a zone that must be seen for yourself. Written by Tom Roiston. Art by Manny Galan and Jim Amash. Also meet some of the other **Freedom Fighters** leaders of Mobius in this bonus story by Karl Bollers with art by Art Hawkinney and Jim Amash. **SONIC #52** on sale August '97!

In three weeks: This one has it all, fans. The Freedom Fighters travel into **Robotropolis** to assess the amount of damage done to their former city of **Mobotropolis**. But what kind of surprises await them? And are they friendly or deadly? Also, witness Sonic meet... uh, uh, ahahh... that would be telling. All we can say is that no Sonic fan would want to miss this issue! Story and art by Ken Penders. **SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #2: BRAVE NEW WORLD** on sale September '97!

BRAVE NEW WORLD on sale

September '97!

Knuckles and Sonic... friends? This one must be read. Written and inked by Ken Penders. Penciled by Art Hawkinney. And if you thought that was all the surprises we had in store for you... there's more! Like the return of Robotnik's mentor, Warlord Kodos and the 'supposed' creator of the **Zone of Silence**, wizard extraordinaire, Ixis Naugus! Written by Karl Bollers. Art by Sam Harwell and Pam Eldred. **SONIC #53** on sale September '97!



Dear Knux,

Don't tell Sonic, but I like you better than I do him. I also think you're cooler. Now it's question time: 1) Do you have a mom? 2) If yes, will she be appearing soon? 3) Is Steppenwolf your dad? 4) Is Kragok your grandpa? Sorry, but I gotta go, I'm reading my Knuckles comic now.

Michael Turner
Hazard, KY

hear what they had to say before I reacted but "thems the breaks." 2) Steppenwolf created a portal to another zone where he exiled The Dark Legion. We had not heard anything from them in over four hundred years until now. 3) No!!!

What's doing, Michael? Thanks for the compliment. I'll make sure not to let Sonic know your little secret. Answer time: 1) Yes, I do. And if you read the last two issues... you know, too! 2) See answer #1. 3) No, but I am related to Steppenwolf. He is my grandfather sixteen generations removed. 4) I guess you can say Kragok is my cousin (and an ugly one at that, too).

Dear Knuckles,

Hi! My name is Peta Fenton. I'm probably the biggest Knuckles and Chaotix nut in Australia. I've been collecting Sonic comics (especially yours) for the last two and a half years. Is it possible that there are more echidnas on The Floating Island or on Nobius (besides Athair)?

Peta Fenton (Age 15)
Sydney, N.S.W. Australia

If you asked me that question during my first mini-series, I would've said "No!" Now, I'm not so sure. Since the return of The Dark Legion as well as Echidnaopolis itself, there could, for all I know, be lost tribe of echidnas somewhere.

Hey Knux!

I've got questions I hope you have answers for: 1) Why can't you be nice to Sonic? I know he annoys you but maybe you could ask Princess Sally to talk to him or something. 2) In the third issue of The Dark Legion storyline, when Steppenwolf used the power of the Chaos Emerald to trap a bunch of those echidnas from The Dark Legion in that hole, where did they go? 3) Are you friends with Nack The Weasel? Well, that's all I wanted to know. Thanks.

Steph Larsen
Delta, B.C., Canada

1) I am as nice to Sonic as he is to me. A lot of people ask me why I sucker-punched Dulcy when her and Sonic arrived on The Floating Island (in SONIC #49). I explain to them that if anyone comes onto the island unannounced, I have to assume it's bad. I admit I should have waited to



Dear Knuckles,

I am one of your biggest fans. I really enjoyed both your mini-series. Here are some questions I've been meaning to ask you: 1) How was Enerjak controlling The Chaotix? 2) How did you know where Espio was in KNUCKLES: The Dark Legion #1? 3) In the beginning of KNUCKLES: The Dark Legion #2, were you and The Chaotix sleeping or did Kragok's men knock you out? I hope your new series is a success! Please tell Charmy Bee my friend Jenny thinks he's cute.

Maria Frippis (Age 12)
frippis@erob.com

Now you see what you did? Charmy's blushing! He's very shy, you know. Back to business, we thank you a bunch for all your good wishes. 1) Enerjak was controlling The Chaotix with his mind. The moment he had his hands full dealing with me, he lost control of The Chaotix minds. 2) Guardian trade secret, I guess. 3) We were knocked out. And none too happy, let me tell you.

Well, that's it for this series. Join us in two months when KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #7 kicks off "The Dark Vengeance" storyline. Be there or be square (whatever that means!).



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